COMICS WORLD

香港中文版

WORLDS

藤崎竜短編集

藤崎竜

Ryo Fujisaki

WORLDS

藤崎竜

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THIS STORY IS A PURELY FICTIONAL STORY,
AND HAS NO RELATION WITH ANY PERSON,
ORGANISATION OR EVENTS THAT HAVE TRANSPIRED.

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Ryu Fujisaki Collection

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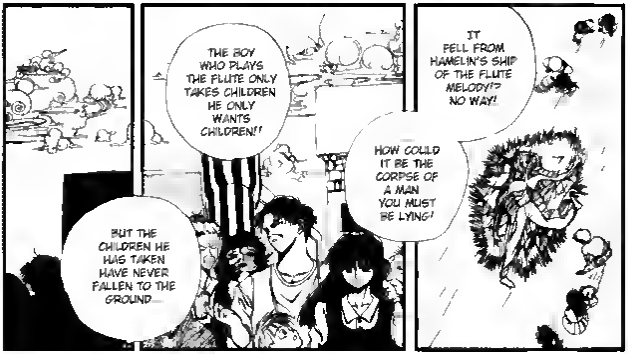
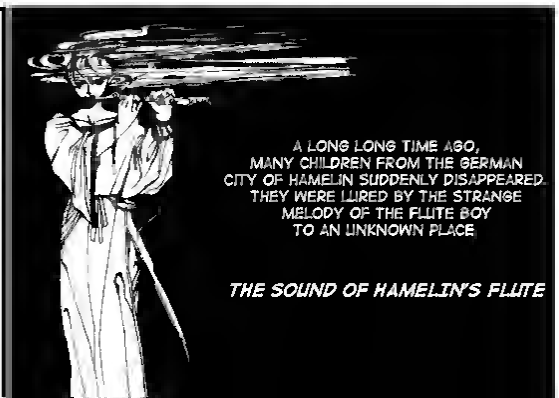
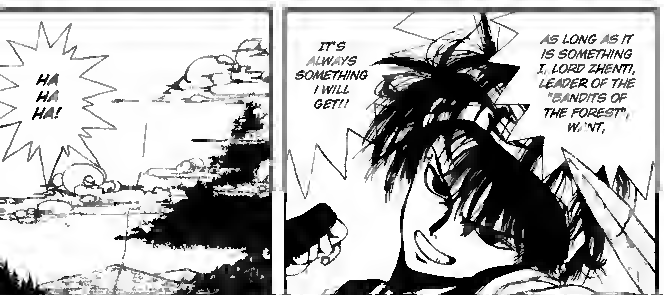

THE BOY WHO PLAYS THE FLUTE ONLY TAKES CHILDREN HE ONLY WANTS CHILDREN!!
BUT THE CHILDREN HE HAS TAKEN HAVE NEVER FALLEN TO THE GROUND...
IT FELL FROM HAMELIN'S SHIP OF THE FLUTE MELODY!? NO WAY!
HOW COULD IT BE THE CORPSE OF A MAN YOU MUST BE LYING!

THIS STORY HAPPENED IN A WORLD COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM THE ONE OF HAMELIN


A LONG LONG TIME AGO, MANY CHILDREN FROM THE GERMAN CITY OF HAMELIN SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED. THEY WERE LURED BY THE STRANGE MELODY OF THE FLUTE BOY TO AN UNKNOWN PLACE
THE SOUND OF HAMELIN'S FLUTE

The Sound of Hamelin's Flute

KILL ALL THE MEN! TAKE ALL THE WOMEN!!
PILLAGE! PILLAGE! TAKE EVERYTHING BACK!


HA HA HA!
IT'S ALWAYS SOMETHING I WILL GET!!
AS LONG AS IT IS SOMETHING I, LORD ZHENTI, LEADER OF THE "BANDITS OF THE FOREST", W.'NT,

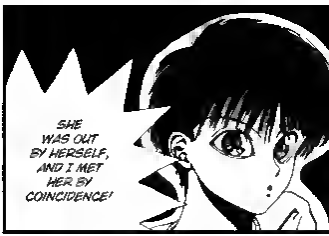
HE MUST BE LOOKING FOR THAT WOMAN AS WELL!
YEAH, THAT WOMAN CALLED... FIONA!
MAKING A HUGE RACKET!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ZHENTI?
HE WAS JUST THERE SHOUTING A WHILE AGO...
LOOK! IT'S THE "SHIP OF THE HAMELIN FLUTE BOY"!!
THAT'S REALLY STRANGE! THAT SHIP USUALLY ONLY APPEARS AT NIGHT!
MAN, IT'S REALLY NOT LIKE ZHENTI AT ALL
YEAH
IF HE REALLY LIKED HER THAT MUCH, HE COULD JUST CATCH HER AND BRING HER BACK!
!

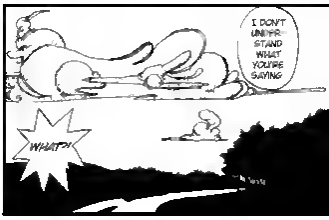
PHEW... FLORENTIN ISN'T HERE.
EH...

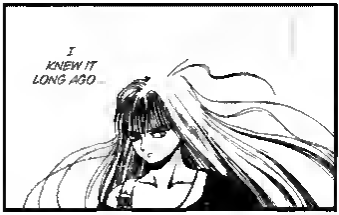
THE SHIP OF THE FLUTE BOY ACTUALLY APPEARED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT STRANGE THINGS MIGHT HAPPEN. YOU SHOULD BE A LITTLE MORE CAREFUL.
ACTUALLY YOU'RE STILL A CHILD. BE CAREFUL OR WE'LL TAKE YOU AWAY! HAHA...!
ISN'T AUGUSTINE TAKING CARE OF YOU? DID ANYTHING HAPPEN TO HIM?
HEY FIONA! YOU'RE ACTUALLY OUT WALKING BY YOURSELF. THAT'S A RARE SIGHT.
WHY... WHY DO YOU SAY NOTHING... ARE YOU REALLY HEARTLESS?
I... WILL NEVER BELIEVE THAT!
FIONA...
FIOREN-TINA.

DON'T HAVE ANY PRESENCE AT ALL!!
YOU.
AUGUSTINE, YOU BRAT.
THAT WAS CLOSE. YOU ALMOST GOT HER.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, IDIOT! LET GO OF MY SISTER --
YOU! THE LEADER OF "THE FOREST BANDITS" ZHENTI!
WHO DID YOU SAY GOT HER, HUH?! IDIOT!
HEY... HEY, YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG.
IF I LET DOWN MY GUARD JUST A LITTLE, SISTER DISAPPEARS, THAT'S QUITE WORRISOME.
BUT, SISTER'S SO BEAUTIFUL... IT'S UNDERSTANDABLE THAT YOU WANT TO SPEND TIME ALONE WITH HER.
REALLY! NO WONDER I COULDN'T FIND HER AT ALL. SO IT WAS YOU WHO TOOK HER AWAY.

THEN, SHE WILL NOT ONLY BE UNABLE TO FEED HERSELF... SHE WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO WALK
THE DOCTOR SAID THAT SISTER WILL BECOME A VEGETABLE VERY SOON
THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO KEEP CLOSE AND TAKE CARE OF HER!


SHE WAS OUT BY HERSELF, AND I MET HER BY COINCIDENCE!

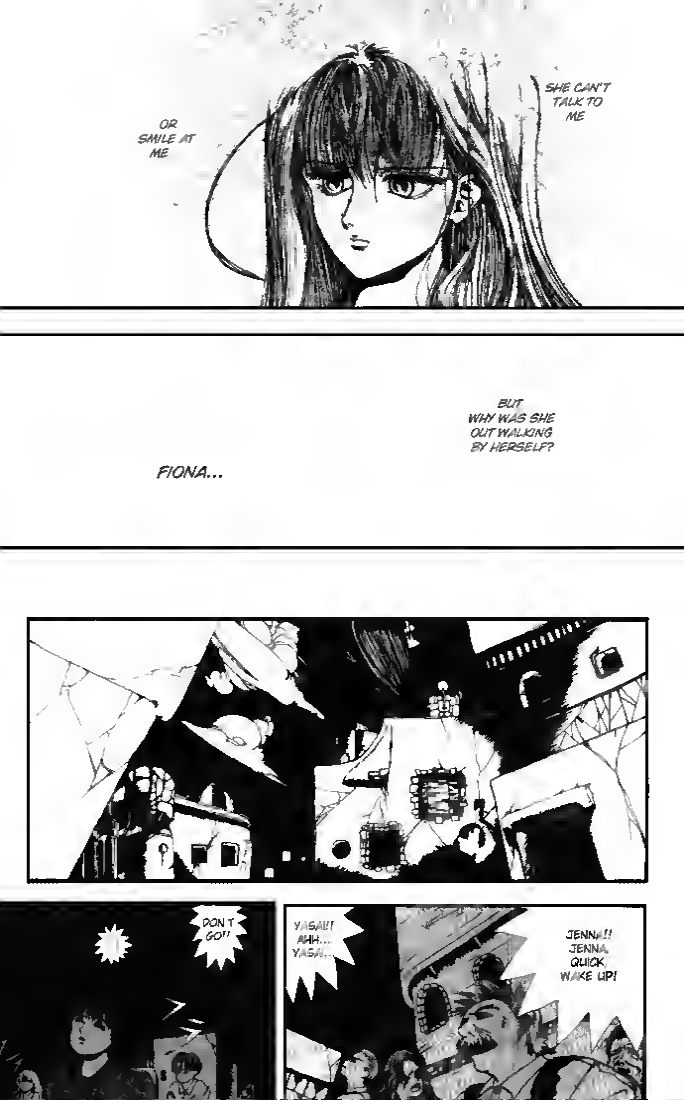

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING
WHAT?!


I KNEW IT LONG AGO...

TW
THEN...

I... WON'T TAKE CARE OF HER!
AND THE SHOWER.
EVEN WHEN SHE USES THE BATH ROOM,

WAA -- WAA -- I'M ONLY KIDDING!
ざく
ざく


OR SMILE AT ME
SHE CAN'T TALK TO ME
BUT WHY WAS SHE OUT WALKING BY HERSELF?
FIONA...
DON'T GO!!
YAGA!! AHH... YAGA...
JENNA!! JENNA, QUICK WAKE UP!

AGAIN... ANOTHER CHILD HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY...
THIS IS THE SECOND TIME TODAY AND SEVEN CHILDREN HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAKEN!
IF WE COULD MOVE...
EVEN IF WE HAD TO EXHALIST OURSELVES WE'D HOLD ONTO THOSE CHILDREN AND NOT LET THEM GO
BUT WE CAN'T MOVE AT ALL!
IS THIS
IS THIS THE EFFECT OF THE FLUTE MELODY ON CHILDREN?
EVEN WITH PLUGGED EARS IT STILL CAN BE HEARD
POOR THINGS. WHAT IS THAT FLUTE BOY TRYING TO DO?
AHH... IT DOESN'T MATTER IF ANY THING HAPPENS TO ME AS LONG AS IT'S NOT MY CHILD.
HAHAHA, I CAN'T STOP MYSELF FROM LAUGHING---!!!!

YOU GUYS-- LOOK-- THERE IS SO MUCH TREASURE!

HE HE...

HO---! THE FASTEST WINS!

BAST...D! SHE'S CALLED FIONA!
IS IT FOR THAT WOMAN CALLED FIORENTIN?
HEY-- ZHENT! THAT'S AN EXQUISITE CLOTH!

HEY! THERE'S STILL A KID THERE!

OH...

PRETTY BOYS ARE SO IRRITATING
CALLING HER NAME ON SUCH INTIMATE TERMS
WHAT "FIONA"!
UGH THESE GUYS ARE HITTING ME PRETTY HARD!

WAA
WAA
!?
WAA
WAA

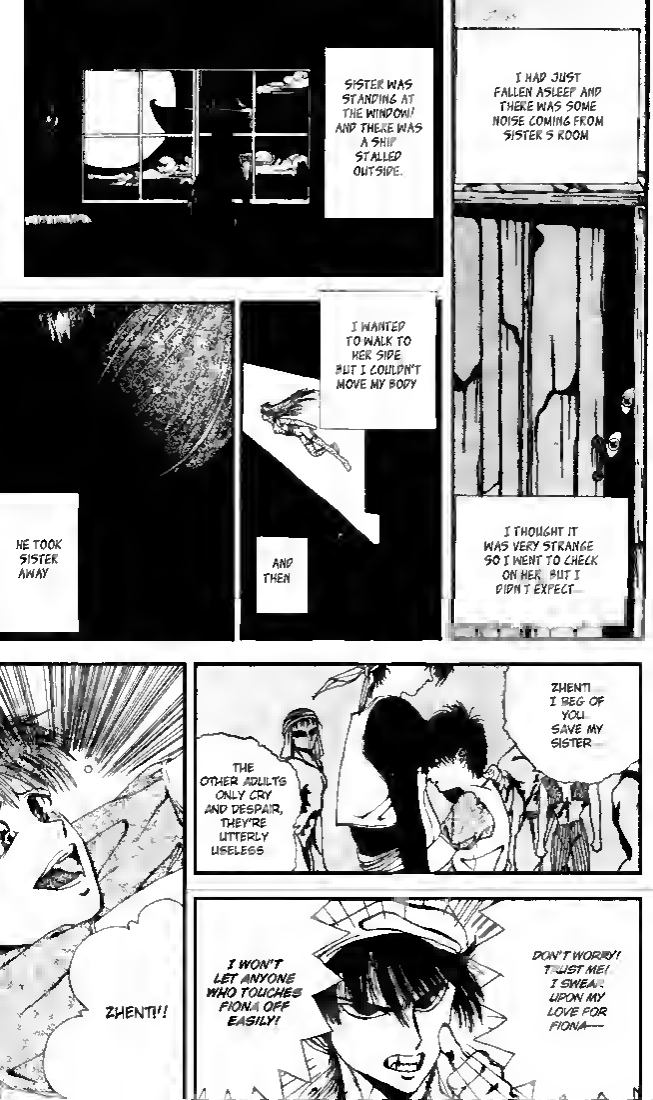
WAA AH!
ALRIGHT-- LET'S GET HIM!

ISN'T THIS AUGUSTINE?

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING LOOKING FOR ME HERE? WHAT'S THE MATTER? HM?
GUEST?

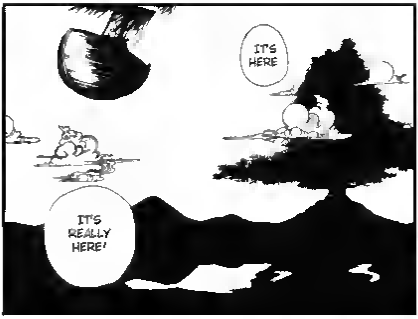
HE'S MY GUEST.
WAIT WAIT WAIT!!

SISTER... SHE... THE FLUTE BOY...!
AH! ZHENT!! SISTER...


SISTER WAS STANDING AT THE WINDOW! AND THERE WAS A SHIP STALLED OUTSIDE.
I HAD JUST FALLEN ASLEEP AND THERE WAS SOME NOISE COMING FROM SISTER'S ROOM
I WANTED TO WALK TO HER SIDE BUT I COULDN'T MOVE MY BODY
AND THEN
HE TOOK SISTER AWAY
I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY STRANGE SO I WENT TO CHECK ON HER, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT—
ZHENTI! I BEG OF YOU. SAVE MY SISTER—
THE OTHER ADULTS ONLY CRY AND DESPAIR, THEY'RE UTTERLY USELESS
ZHENTI!!
I WON'T LET ANYONE WHO TOUCHES FIONA OFF EASILY!
DON'T WORRY! TRUST ME! I SWEAR UPON MY LOVE FOR FIONA—

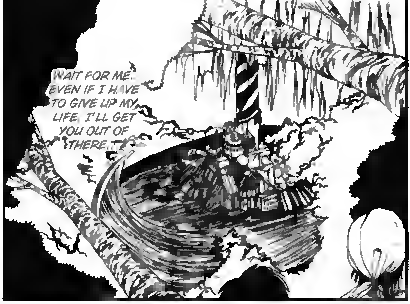
RIGHT--
AUGUSTINE,
TELL ME
WHERE THE
SHIP IS!
IDIOT!
I'M REALLY
HEAVY.
PUT ME
DOWN!
NOISY KID!
COMPARED
WITH GOLD COINS
A LITTLE BIRD
LIKE YOU AIN'T
SHIT!
BUT...
BUT, WHY
IS THIS SO?
ZHEN!!
HUH?!
BEFORE
THE FLUTE BOY'S
TARGETS WERE
ONLY CHILDREN
UNDER TEN...
A SHIP
THAT SOARS
THE SKIES
A FLUTE
MELODY THAT
CONTROLS
CHILDREN,
AND THEN,
THE RUMORS
OF THE
"SOUND OF
HAMELIN'S
FLUTE"
THERE ARE
EVEN SOME WHO
SAY IT IS THE
NAME OF A
STREET IN
ANOTHER
WORLD...!
THAT
MAN'S CORPSE
A FEW DAYS
AGO IT REALLY
WAS THE WORK
OF THE
FLUTE BOY
EVERYTHING
ABOUT HIM
IS SURROUNDED
BY MYSTERY!
ONLY
IDIOTS WILL
QUESTION AS
TO THE
ACTIONS OF
THE FLUTE
BOY.

THAT LARGE TREE?
YEP! WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO JUMP ON THE SHIP FROM IT.
ALTHOUGH... MANY THINGS HAVE HAPPENED BEFORE, THE MAIN THING NOW IS HOW TO GET ON THAT SHIP!
AH! I HAVE A GOOD IDEA!
AND SLOWLY DISAPPEARS IN THE SHADOWS OF THE FOREST
I'VE NOTICED SEVERAL TIMES THAT THE FLUTE BOY'S SHIP PASSES HERE EVERYTIME SOMETHING HAPPENS
I GUARANTEE IT!
HOLD... HOLD ON! THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT THE SHIP WILL ACTUALLY PASS THIS AREA!
THIS... SISTER AND I ARE NOT CHILDREN ANYMORE SO I THOUGHT THAT WE WOULDN'T BE CAPTURED BY THE FLUTE BOY...
YOU!! SINCE YOU KNEW THAT, WHY DID YOU LET FIONA COME HERE FOR WALKS!!



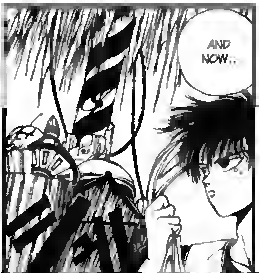
SINCE I WAS LITTLE I HAVE BEEN WITH THE BANDIT GROUP. TO ME, FIONA IS LIKE A GODDESS

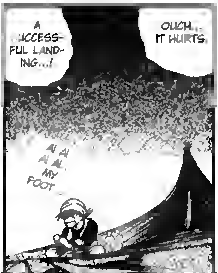
HEY... ARE WE REALLY GOING TO JUMP? IT'S SO HIGH, AND...

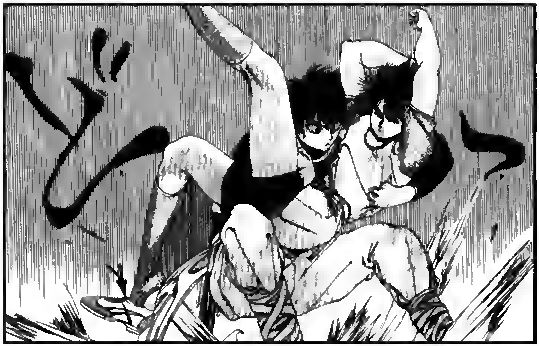

WAIT FOR ME! EVEN IF I HAVE TO GIVE UP MY LIFE, I'LL GET YOU OUT OF THERE...!

DON'T COME ALONG IF YOU'RE SO SCARED!!
AH!

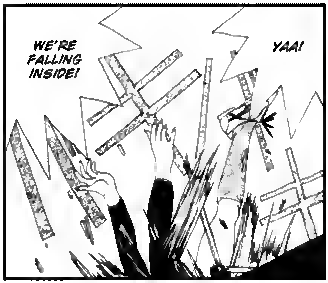
UHAAAHH!! LOOK OUT!

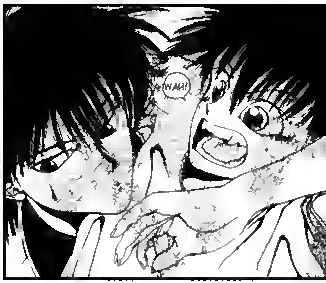

AND NOW...


A SUCCESS-FUL LAND-ING...!
OUCH... IT HURTS.
AAAA... MY FOOT.



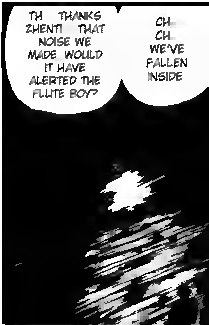
ID... IDIOT!


WE'RE FALLING INSIDE!
YAA!


YAAAA!!

UGH! IT'S SMELLS LIKE A HIPPOPOTAMUS
IT REEKS!

GYAA IT MIGHT HAVE STILL, WE'LL WANT TO FIND FIONA FIRST... EH?

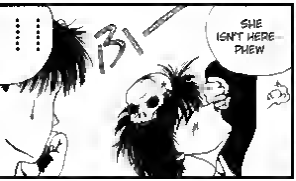

TH THANKS ZHENT THAT NOISE WE MADE WOULD IT HAVE ALERTED THE FLUTE BOY?
OH... OH WE'VE FALLEN INSIDE

SK... SKELET-ONS!
IT'S THOSE CHILDREN! THE CHILDREN THAT HE TOOK AWAY...

WAA!

I COULD IT BE THAT FIONA IS ALSO IN THERE...?!

IT REALLY REALLY STINKS--!
...UGGH---!


.....
SHE ISN'T HERE... PHEW

AH

FIORENTINA!!

YEAH.
SOME... SOMEHOW IT FEELS REALLY WEIRD..

WHAT... WHAT'S HAPPENING!?
WE'LL BE CRUSHED!

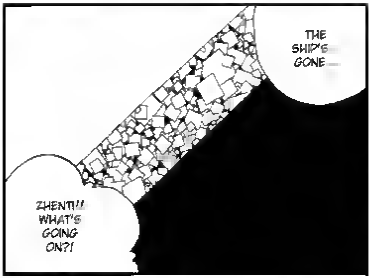
UWAAH!

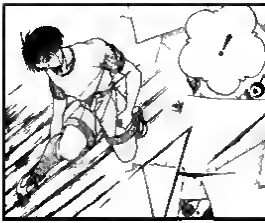
WAAA

ZHENTI, COME ON, HURRY!
I'M GOING TO FIND FIONA!

OK!
GET OUT OF THE HOLE! QUICK!

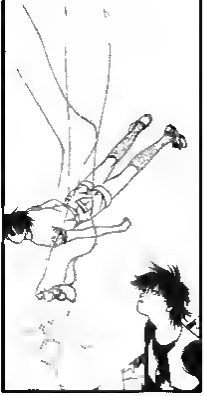
UWAAAAA!
WHAT'S THIS? IT'S DISGUSTING!
WH... WHAT, THIS SHIP
IS ALIVE!
UWAA! BASTARD! ZHENT! SAVE ME!


THE SHIP'S GONE
ZHENTI!! WHAT'S GOING ON?!


!

THIS IS

!?



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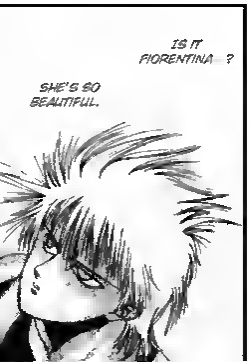
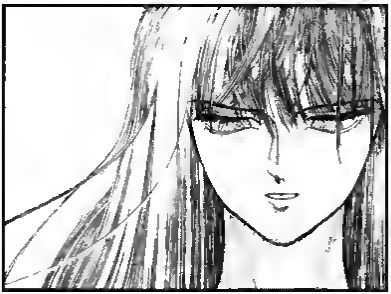
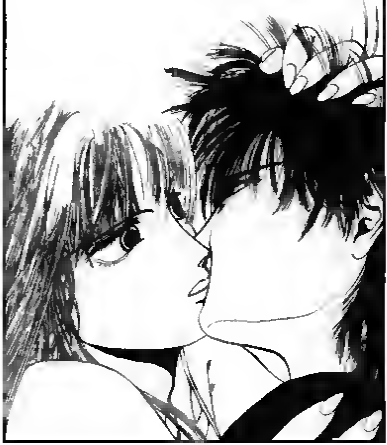
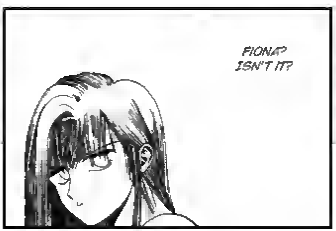
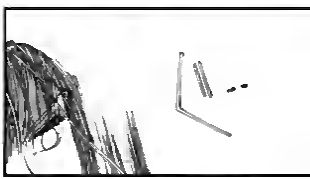

IS IT FIORENTINA ?
SHE'S SO BEAUTIFUL.



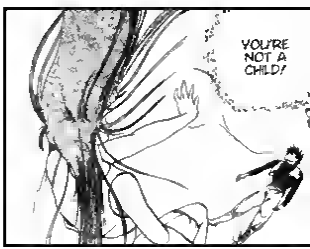


HUH, WHAT...?!
I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY...


FIONA? ISN'T IT?

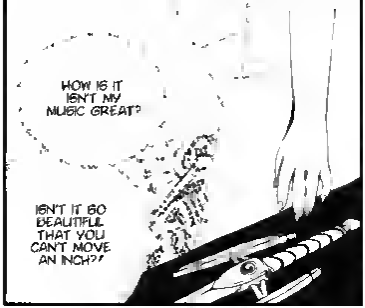


ISN'T SHE FIORENTINA?!

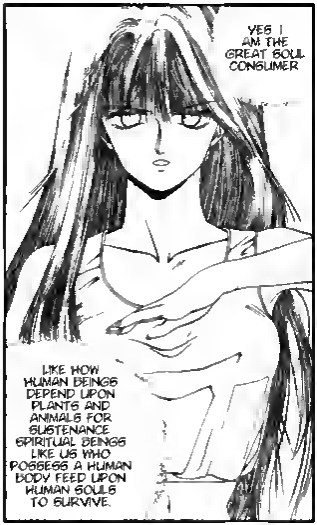

YOU'RE NOT A CHILD!

NO WONDER THIS SHIP THAT ONLY CHILDREN CAN COME TO HAD SUCH A BIG REACTION.

HEY!
HEY, AUGUSTINE!
AH YOU'RE NOT JUST A SIMPLE FOOL.
WHO ARE YOU?!
BEING ABLE TO RETAIN CONSCIOUSNESS EVEN IN THIS WORLD...
WITHOUT A LOT OF DETERMINATION, HE CAN'T MOVE
IT'S NO USE.
WHAT?
I AM THE ONE YOU HUMANS CALL THE FLUTE PLAYER OF HAMELIN.
WHO EXACTLY ARE YOU ?
LOOK! THIS IS THE PROOF OF THE FLUTE!
LI LIAR! IF YOU'RE THE FLUTE PLAYER, WHY ARE YOU DISGUISED IN THE FORM OF FIONA?!
HOO
HE IS THE FLUTE BOY OF HAMELIN?!


HOW IS IT ISN'T MY MUSIC GREAT?
ISN'T IT SO BEAUTIFUL THAT YOU CAN'T MOVE AN INCH?!

MY MY BODY!


YES I AM THE GREAT SOUL CONSUMER
LIKE HOW HUMAN BEINGS DEPEND UPON PLANTS AND ANIMALS FOR SUSTENANCE SPIRITUAL BEINGS LIKE US WHO POSSESS A HUMAN BODY FEED UPON HUMAN SOULS TO SURVIVE.

I'M SORRY NOW I WANT YOU TO DIE. YOUR SOULS ARE TOO FOUL TO BE EATEN

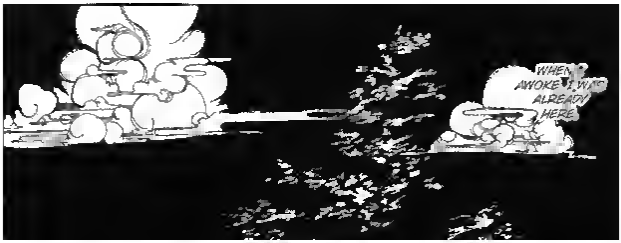
YOU SAW IT YOURSELF THE RESULT OF THOSE WHOSE SOULS I'VE SUCKED AWAY

EAT SOULS?

VEGETABLES LIKE HER ARE EASY TO CONTROL AND BECAUSE OF THIS I COULD EVEN START TO LOOK FOR GOOD EVEN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. THAT IS WHY
A FEW DAYS AGO. BECAUSE THE BODY I HAD POSSESSED HAD AGED I THREW HIM AWAY AND POSSESSED THIS GIRL WHO WAS NEARBY.

UGH..?!
AHHHAHH!!
FIONA..
EVEN IF I GIVE UP ON A FOUL-TASTING SOUL LIKE YOURS, I WON'T GO HUNGRY!
THIS.. IT'S IT'S GOD..
THIS.. IS THIS THE GIRL'S SOUL?! NO.. THIS KIND OF SPIRIT ISN'T A HUMAN'S
AS THE GREATEST CONSUMER OF SOULS AHHH
UWAAA WILL I DIE
!
FIONA!

.....
WHAT
REALLY
HAPPENED...


WHEN I AWOKE, I WAS ALREADY HERE

SO, AS TO BE ABLE TO MOVE ON THE GROUND, HE POSSESSED A NEW BODY — FIONA'S BODY — I CAN'T REMEMBER CLEARLY.
WHAT DID THE ELITE PLAYER SAY IN AGEING BODY — SO THE BODY THAT FELL FROM THE SKIES WAS THE ONE HE DISPOSED OF.

DIED
FIONA ALSO...

HE DID SAY HE WOULD DIE
--BUT

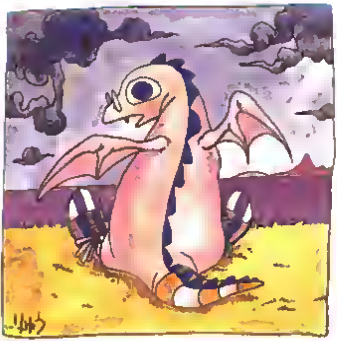
...DAMN IT...
IN THE END... I STILL COULDN'T SAVE HER...
UWAAA! SISTER!!!
BASTARD!
MEN DON'T CRY FOR NOTHING.
Thank you.
Thank you, both.
OH GOD.!

BECAUSE I TASTED THE PAIN OF LOSING SOMETHING IRREPLACEABLE
I COULDN'T BE A BANDIT ANYMORE
MAYBE THIS IS
ZHENT!!
!
THE PUNISHMENT FOR MY TAKING AWAY THE POSSESSIONS OF OTHERS

I...
WAS VERY CONSTRAINED IN THE PAST, WHEN I HAD TO TAKE CARE OF SISTER...
WON'T YOUR PARENTS WORRY?!
I KNOW, YOU'RE GOING FOR AN ADVENTURE RIGHT?!
IDIOT, I'M NOT GOING TO PLAY!
THEY'VE ALREADY AGREED!
BUT... WHY ARE YOU DRESSED LIKE THAT?
IT DOESN'T MATTER!
AND ...
TAKE ME ALONG.
I HAVE BEEN TRYING VERY HARD ALL ALONG! THINKING ABOUT HOW TO STEAL HER AWAY
?
TO STEAL HER HEART AWAY!
PFFT! IDIOT?!
ZHENTI, SINCE YOU LIKED SISTER SO MUCH. WHY DIDN'T YOU STEAL HER AWAY? ANYWAY YOU'RE A BANDIT

The Sound of Hamelin's Flute - END

cha cha cha!
---- Ya ----!!
This is embarrassing for me...
Period. This is my debut work, and I won a distinction prize in a competition.
But it's still embarrassing. It's because the art is poor, the story is lacking in maturity, the concept doesn't work, everything just doesn't make it.
It's like using a tape recorder to tape your own singing, and feeling embarrassed when you hear it. I'm a total idiot in music.
When the editor told me to archive this in the short stories compilation, my face went green. But it couldn't be helped because I really gave it my best at the time I did it.
Speaking of this, this work was actually written for an experiment. At the time I was a real amateur and I didn't know anything about manga. So because I wanted to know what level of story and art would make it in the manga world, I took on the experiment. In the end, incidentally, I won a prize, and squeezed myself into the manga world.
The result of the experiment → Even an idiot can be a mangaka!?
Fujisaki 18 years old, at work when he was young
SHITER AND LANZHENER LOOK EXACTLY THE SAME
ZHENTI AND TIENI ALSO
THE NAME IS WEIRD! THE COSTUMES ALSO!! I HATE THIS MANGA!
HEY FUJISAKI! WHY DO I HAVE TO BE SO UNLUCKY?
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING UNJUNGING ME SO THOUGHTLESSLY!!? START OVER AND DRAW AGAIN AGAIN!
HEH. YOU'RE LUCKY TO JUST BE ABLE TO APPEAR IN FUJISAKI'S MANGA



Worlds - 1st Story
The Sound of Hamelin's Flute
brought to you by:
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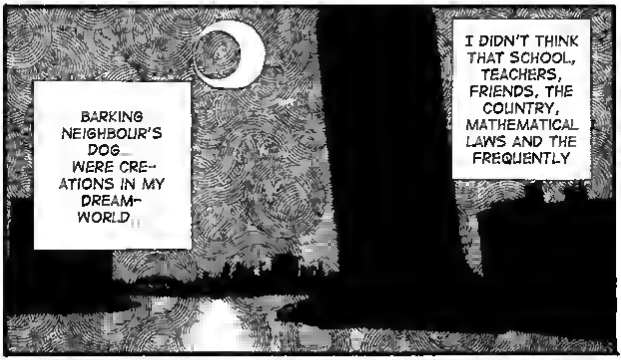
Staff:
scanned by: Shihaf
translated by: arias
edited by: Resie
qc: Shihaf
proofread by: Jekias

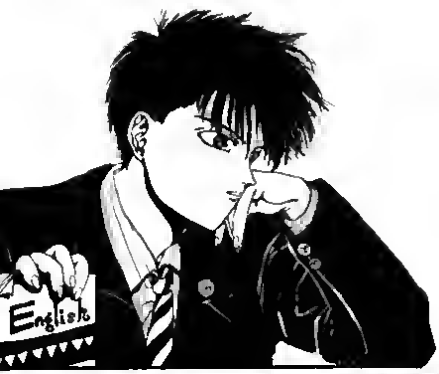
Not really any notes but hey...
I (Resie) am happy to finally be able to do a Ryu Fujisaki manga. Been waiting for a looong time to have the opportunity to work on any of his works. Can't tell I'm a big fan hey? I dedicate this to all Ryu Fujisaki fans out there!
Oh and this particular story is one of his first ^_^ It's pretty old.

WORLDS

I THINK THAT EVERYONE HAS THOUGHT OF IT AT LEAST ONCE BEFORE.
ABOUT WHETHER EVERYTHING THAT HAS HAPPENED WAS JUST A DREAM

BUT... I GUESS NO ONE WOULD ACTUALLY BELIEVE THAT IT REALLY IS A DREAM.


I DIDN'T THINK THAT SCHOOL, TEACHERS, FRIENDS, THE COUNTRY, MATHEMATICAL LAWS AND THE FREQUENTLY
BARKING NEIGHBOUR'S DOG... WERE CREATIONS IN MY DREAM-WORLD.



UNTIL TODAY, I WAS ALWAYS A NORMAL HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT

BASTARD!! THAT IMPOSSIBLE RIGHT?!
HEY-- HEY EVERYONE, LISTEN UP! THIS GUY LIKES LEEME!!
WHY'D YOUR FACE TURN RED IT'S REALLY CUTE!!
BUT THAT LASTED ONLY UNTIL TODAY!!

I LIKE A GIRL WHO WAS ALWAYS IN THE SAME CLASS AS MYSELF,
I ALSO HAVE A COUPLE OF REALLY CLOSE BUDDIES...
AH
HEY, YOU,
THOSE EYES THAT WATCH LEEME! ARE REALLY BURNING--!!

IF HE EVER DARES TO SAY SUCH RUBBISH AGAIN

MAN
THAT BASTARD DAYO IT'S REALLY MADDENING!

THIS INNOCENT ROMANTIC GIRL!
IT HURTS!

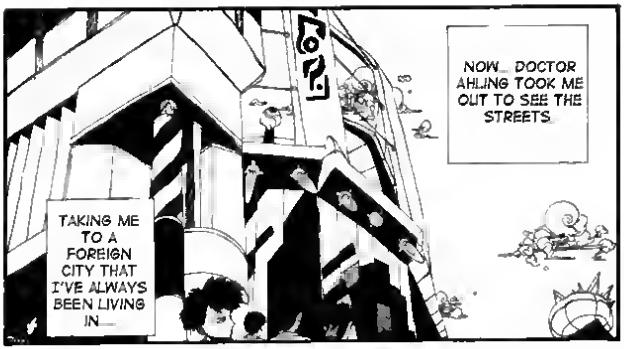
YAHOOOO--- !! GIVE ME A RIDE!!
WAAH!

YOU SUDDENLY JUMPED ONTO THE BACKSEAT, HOW COULD I NOT POSSIBLY FALL?!
SORRY, SORRY, I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOU WOULD ACTUALLY FALL!
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I LIKE ABOUT HER...

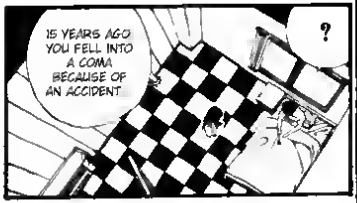
HEY HEY HEY!!!
SO WHAT!! GIANT EXPOSURE DEFENSE PANTS!!
ARE YOU EXPOSED BY STANDING UP LIKE THAT?
HEY LEEME! EVERYONE'S BEEN STARING AT US FROM JUST NOW...
AIYE
!
SHIT!

YOU'VE FINALLY WOKEN UP!
THIS IS GREAT!
LEEMEI!?
LEEMEI!!!
AL---3
GOOD MORNING,
HUH?! WOULD I BE OTHERWISE?
ARE YOU... ALRIGHT?

YOU...DON'T KNOW? THIS IS SUCH A GRAVE MATTER AND YOU...
WHAT.. WE GOT HIT BY A CAR RIGHT?!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M WN----44, JUST CALL ME AHLING.
I'M A DOCTOR FROM THIS HOSPITAL
WN?
AFTER ALL YOU'VE BEEN SLEEPING FOR 15 YEARS...
IT'S UNDER-STANDABLE THAT YOU'RE SAYING ALL THIS NONSENSE.
.....


TAKING ME TO A FOREIGN CITY THAT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN LIVING IN—
NOW... DOCTOR AHLING TOOK ME OUT TO SEE THE STREETS.

YOU'VE BEEN IN A COMA FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS!


15 YEARS AGO YOU FELL INTO A COMA BECAUSE OF AN ACCIDENT.
?

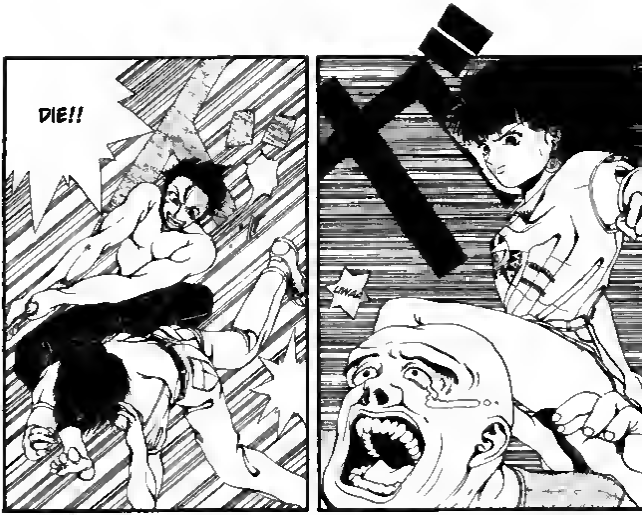
COULD... COULD IT BE THAT THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT MADE ME SLEEP FOR 15 YEARS?!
THEN, I'M ALREADY 32 YEARS OLD...

JUST NOW, WHAT WAS SHE TRYING TO SAY—
I'M BECOMING CONFUSED ABOUT IT.

15 YEARS AGO, WHEN YOU WERE 5 YEARS OLD YOU FELL DOWN FROM A FLIGHT OF STEPS AND WAS UNCONSCIOUS AFTER THAT
IT'S BECAUSE OF MEDICAL PROGRESS THAT YOU COULD BE SAVED TODAY!
15 YEARS AGO...
I WAS FIVE?
IT WASN'T A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT
YOU SEEM TO BE MISTAKEN! I'M 17 THIS YEAR...
I'M A SECOND YEAR STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL! AND, I DON'T REMEMBER
MY FALL FROM THE STAIRS AT ALL.
WHEN THE DOCTOR SAID THAT, SHE LOOKED VERY SERIOUS
YOU'VE BEEN IN A COMA SINCE YOU WERE 5 AND NOW YOU'RE SAYING STRANGE
I'D THINGS BETTER GIVE YOU ANOTHER CHECK-UP
THIS JUST DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT
WHAT'S A HIGH SCHOOL?

I'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF THESE WORDS BEFORE BUT IT SUDDENLY SURFACED IN MY MIND.
PARALLEL WORLDS.
COMPARED WITH THE WORLD I WAS IN BEFORE, THE STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY, THE SCIENCES, AND MANY OTHER THINGS IN THIS WORLD ARE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
AFTER SAYING THAT, I TOLD HER TO TAKE ME OUT TO SEE THE STREETS,
AND THE STRANGEST THING WAS THAT THE NAME OF THIS STREET WAS THE SAME AS THE ONE IN MY WORLD.
MUM... WHAT SHOULD I DO?
DID I COME TO THIS WORLD BECAUSE OF THAT ACCIDENT?
ISN'T THERE ANY WAY TO GET BACK?
AH... PLEASE TAKE ME TO SEE MY PARENTS!
YOUR PARENTS?

4 YEARS AGO.
THEY PASSED AWAY.
THEY WERE VICTIMS OF A HOOLIGAN ATTACK.. AND DIED.
BUT THAT'S NOT AN UNCOMMON THING.
PASSED AWAY?!
TO USE ALL THE COMPENSATION FROM THEIR LIFE INSURANCE TO PAY FOR YOUR HOSPITAL FEES.
THEY LEFT BEHIND A WILL.
THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE HERE WHO...
BE CAREFUL, AIRU.
HUH...?!
AHHHHHH !!
ATTACK OTHERS FOR NO REASON AT ALL!!
YOU PROBABLY STILL DON'T KNOW...


DIE!!
UWAA

HEY, WHAT DO WE DO IF YOU BEAT HIM BACK INTO A COMA!!

AH
メリ
ドカ
バキ

AIRU...
HEY, LOOK, LOOK!
AIRU, GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!
ISN'T THIS PAIR OF PYJAMAS CUTE?
WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING AT SO ABSORBEDLY? HUHUHUHU!
ITS THE HOSPITAL!
THIS - IS THE ORIGINAL WORLD?!
HUH?

SHE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE MS AHLING BUT THEY RE NOT THE SAME PERSON
ITS SUPRISING THAT IT WASN'T SERIOUS
I ONLY SUFFERED A LIGHT CONCUSSION
SHE'S THE REAL LEEMEI!

BUT, AT THAT MOMENT I THOUGHT I'D DIE FOR SURE

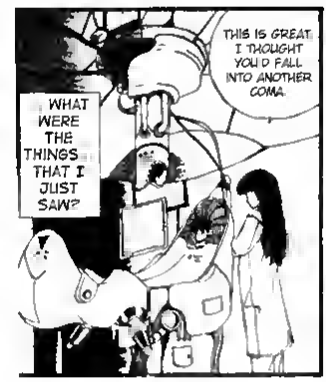
HEH.. YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT THAT TRAFFIC ACCIDENT RIGHT...

YES YES YES!
BEING BACK IN THIS WORLD.. YES!!
EH.

THIS FEELING IT ISN'T A DREAM
THIS IS GREAT!!
IT WAS ALSO MY FIRST TIME ON AN AMBULANCE!

AIRU!!
RU?

WHAT WERE YOU SO HAPPY ABOUT...
..... HUH?


WHAT WERE THE THINGS THAT I JUST SAW?
THIS IS GREAT. I THOUGHT YOU'D FALL INTO ANOTHER COMA.

MS. AHLING!

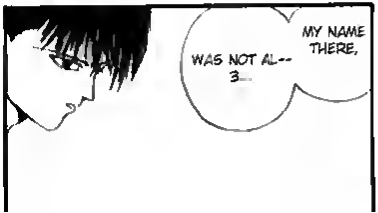
AH...
YOU'VE AWAKENED, AIRU?

COULD IT BE...!!
YOU HAVE TO BE A LITTLE MORE CAREFUL, IT'S FULL OF THOSE SORTS OF PEOPLE OUTSIDE.

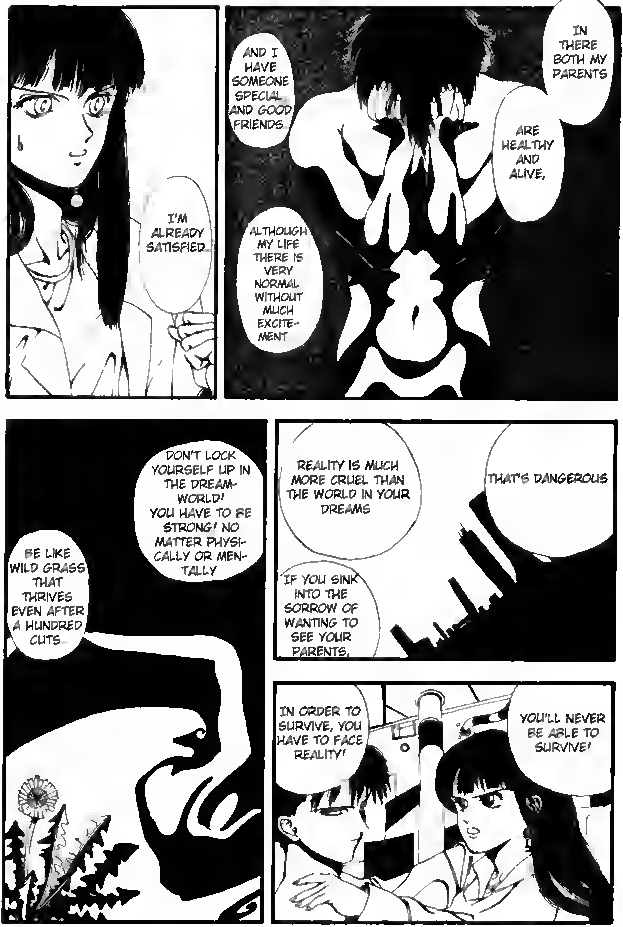
I THINK, THOSE WEREN'T JUST FIGMENTS OF MY IMAGINATION...
YES! AND IN MY DREAMS THERE WERE NOT ONLY SOCIETY PEOPLE STREETS I EVEN FELT PAIN HAD A SENSE OF SMELL AND OTHER SENSATIONS...
YOU'RE SAYING THAT IN YOUR 15 YEAR SLEEP, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN DREAMING?
YEAH...
DREAMING?

SO, IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO DREAM!!
YOU WOULD BE IN A DREAMLESS SLEEP IT'S IN A STATE TO ENABLE MEMORY PRESERVATION
LOOK, THIS BED IF YOU SET THE DISPLAY TO SOO,
BUT THERE PERHAPS REMAINS A POSSIBILITY OF DREAMING

UNTIL YOU WERE FIVE YOU HAD A NORMAL LIFE SO I UNDERSTAND YOU COULD HAVE THOSE SENSATIONS
IN YOUR DREAMS...


MY NAME THERE,
WAS NOT AL--
3...

LIKEWISE FOR MYSELF...
BUT, THIS IS REALLY HARD TO BELIEVE!


I'M ALREADY SATISFIED.
AND I HAVE SOMEONE SPECIAL AND GOOD FRIENDS.
ALTHOUGH MY LIFE THERE IS VERY NORMAL WITHOUT MUCH EXCITEMENT
IN THERE BOTH MY PARENTS
ARE HEALTHY AND ALIVE,
DON'T LOCK YOURSELF UP IN THE DREAM-WORLD! YOU HAVE TO BE STRONG! NO MATTER PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY
BE LIKE WILD GRASS THAT THRIVES EVEN AFTER A HUNDRED CUTS.
REALITY IS MUCH MORE CRUEL THAN THE WORLD IN YOUR DREAMS
IF YOU SINK INTO THE SORROW OF WANTING TO SEE YOUR PARENTS,
THAT'S DANGEROUS
IN ORDER TO SURVIVE, YOU HAVE TO FACE REALITY!
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO SURVIVE!

BUT SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART, I THINK THAT SECRETLY, I WISHED THAT MY DREAM-WORLD WAS REALITY.
THIS IS THE WORLD THAT I SHOULD LIVE IN.
THIS IS NOT A PARALLEL WORLD, IT'S REALITY.
IN MY DREAMS, IT WAS A REALLY, REALLY COMFORTABLE WORLD...
IF I WAIT, TOMORROW WILL BRING A NEW DAY
IN REALITY, I HAVE TO STRUGGLE THROUGH TODAY, TO HAVE A TOMORROW.
MAYBE I'M THINKING OF TREATING THIS UGLY, BARBARIC WORLD AS A DREAM...
I'M TAKING THIS---!!
AHH...

THAT'S INTERESTING. BUT THE EARTH IN REALITY IS FLAT! THE SUN'S ABLE TO MOVE AS WELL!
IT'S LIKE THIS
THERE ARE EVEN PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN FROM OUTER SPACE.
IN THE WORLD WITHIN MY DREAMS, THAT'S WHAT'S SAID. THERE'S EVEN GEOLOGY STUDIES.
THE EARTH IS ROUND?
.....
THEY COULDN'T BEAR TO ABANDON THE WEAK, THE YOU THAT HAD NO CHANCE OF REVIVAL....
IF IT WERE SOMEONE ELSE, THEY WOULD HAVE RUTHLESSLY DISPOSED OF YOU...
YOUR PARENTS WERE ALSO LIKE THAT.
AHH, IT LOOKS DELICIOUS!
I'M SORRY, HERE'S YOUR DISH
DISPOSE

WHAT MEAT IS THIS?
AH, THIS?! THIS IS

COME COME LET'S EAT. I CAME TO SUCH A POSH RESTAURANT ONLY FOR YOU
BUT ACTUALLY, THIS IS ALL USING YOUR PARENTS' INSURANCE
UMM
UMM

.....

!!

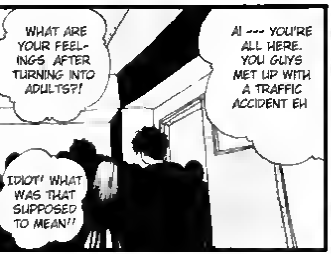
WORLDS
AH! SIR, THAT'S THE KITCHEN!
PLEASE DON'T JUST ALLOW YOURSELF...!!
AIRU?!
WHO ARE YOU!!
IS IT A NEW-COMING APPRENTICE?
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS .

Waaahhh Waaahh
OUU U OUU U OUU
WAAAHH H
LIWAAH
HEY!! YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED IN HERE!!
HEY, AIRU!!
WHAT HAP-PENED TO YOU..!?
YOU'RE SO DIRTY!!
GET OUT OF HERE!
WHAT WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
STAY AWAY
HUH?
STAY AWAY FROM ME

IN THIS HARSH WORLD WHERE THE STRONG PREY ON THE WEAK.
ONLY THE STRONG CAN SURVIVE!
HEY!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING!!
WHAT AM I DOING?
WHAT IS MY NAME?
WHERE AM I, NOW?

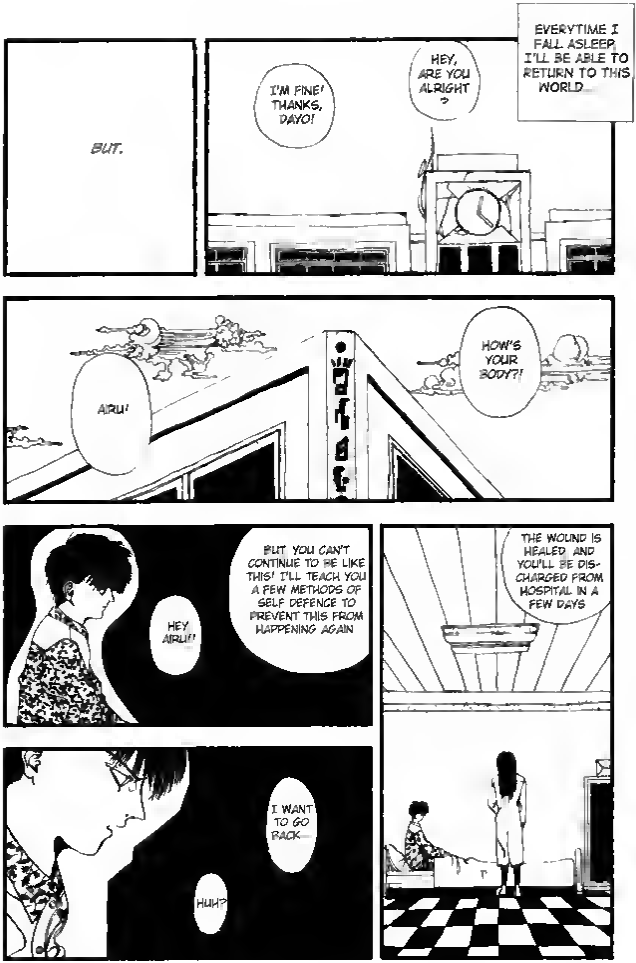
DONG
AH AH
HEHE...
I JUST WANT TO SLEEP.
NO... I DON'T WANT TO DIE...
BLOOD..? WILL I DIE?

I JUST WANT TO RETURN TO MY DREAMS
KA.

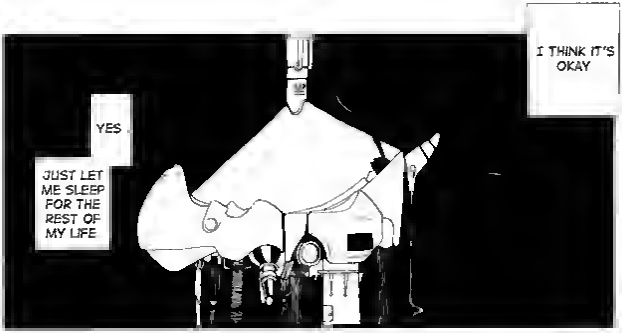

WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS AFTER TURNING INTO ADULTS?!
AI --- YOU'RE ALL HERE. YOU GUYS MET UP WITH A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT EH
IDIOT! WHAT WAS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN!!

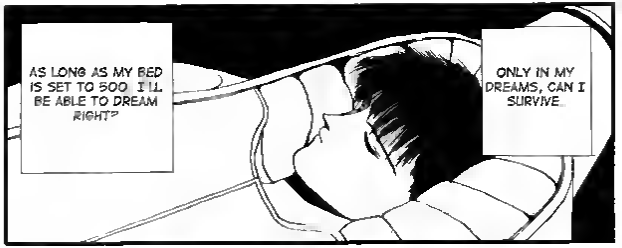
LEEMEI-CHAN REVIVAL!

THIS IS THE DREAM WORLD!
THE SAME DREAM CONTINUES!

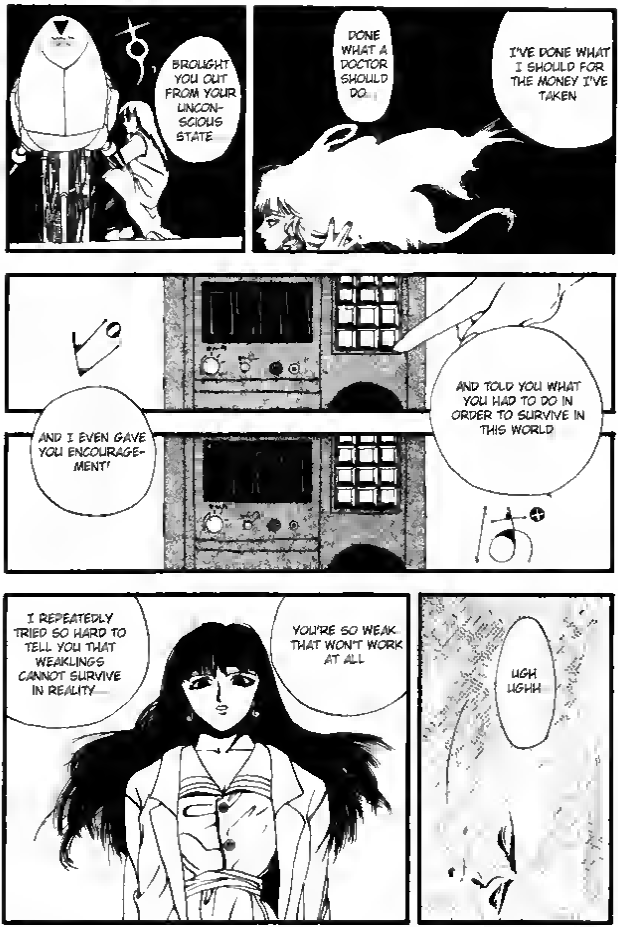

BUT.
I'M FINE! THANKS, DAYO!
HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT ?
EVERYTIME I FALL ASLEEP, I'LL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO THIS WORLD...
AIRU!
HOW'S YOUR BODY?!
HEY AIRU!
BUT YOU CAN'T CONTINUE TO BE LIKE THIS! I'LL TEACH YOU A FEW METHODS OF SELF DEFENCE TO PREVENT THIS FROM HAPPENING AGAIN
HUH?
I WANT TO GO BACK...
THE WOUND IS HEALED AND YOU'LL BE DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITAL IN A FEW DAYS

BUT... IF I STAY HERE...
I'LL GO CRAZY...
I KNOW NO ONE WILL LET ME DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT!!
ESCAPING REALITY, AND COWERING IN MY DREAMS...
AS LONG AS YOU OBEY THE FLOW OF SOCIETY, YOU CAN LIVE A NORMAL LIFE TO THE END OF YOUR DAYS
BECAUSE, IN THE DREAM WORLD,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO SURVIVE IN THIS REALITY...
I LIVED IN THAT WORLD BEFORE


I THINK IT'S OKAY
YES
JUST LET ME SLEEP FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE

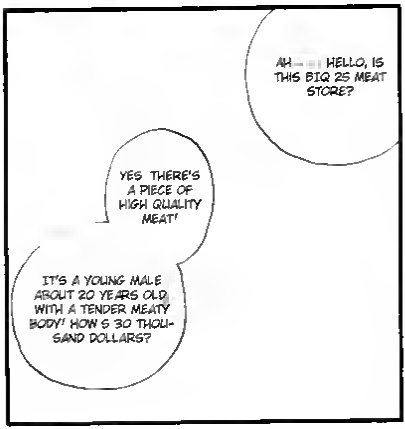

AS LONG AS MY BED IS SET TO GOO. I'LL BE ABLE TO DREAM RIGHT?
ONLY IN MY DREAMS, CAN I SURVIVE...

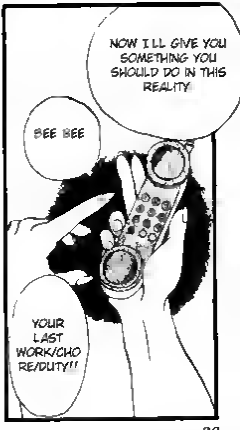
YES ALTHOUGH THE OTHER BEDS ARE NICE AS WELL


BROUGHT YOU OUT FROM YOUR UNCONSCIOUS STATE
DONE WHAT A DOCTOR SHOULD DO...
I'VE DONE WHAT I SHOULD FOR THE MONEY I'VE TAKEN
AND I EVEN GAVE YOU ENCOURAGEMENT!
AND TOLD YOU WHAT YOU HAD TO DO IN ORDER TO SURVIVE IN THIS WORLD
I REPEATEDLY TRIED SO HARD TO TELL YOU THAT WEAKLINGS CANNOT SURVIVE IN REALITY.....
YOU'RE SO WEAK THAT WON'T WORK AT ALL
UGH UGHH

YET,
YOU ESCAPED REALITY...

MM.
.....


AH— HELLO, IS THIS BIQ 25 MEAT STORE?
YES THERE'S A PIECE OF HIGH QUALITY MEAT!
IT'S A YOUNG MALE ABOUT 20 YEARS OLD WITH A TENDER MEATY BODY! HOW S 30 THOUSAND DOLLARS?


NOW I LL GIVE YOU SOMETHING YOU SHOULD DO IN THIS REALITY
BEE BEE
YOUR LAST WORK/CHORE/DUTY!!!

THE SLEEPING METER IS SET AT 1000! AT THIS LEVEL, EVEN AN ELEPHANT WON'T DREAM!
DON'T WORRY HE'S SLEEPING SOUNDLY, AND WON'T EVEN BE DREAMING

THERE'S ONLY DARKNESS —
IT'S ALL DARK!!
I'M ALREADY ASLEEP. ▪▪▪ AREN'T I DREAM-
WHY?
?

WORLDS

THE 40TH ~COMPETITION~ ENTRY. IS THIS PIECE "WORLDS" WHAT DOES EVERYONE THINK ABOUT IT? I PERSONALLY LIKE THIS WORK. IN THE PAST I NEVER IMAGINED DRAWING MANGA AS A LIVING AND ONLY THOUGHT OF BEING A COMPUTER SE AND THEN MOVING ON TO A SPECIALISED SCHOOL FOR FURTHER STUDIES, BUT UNEXPECTEDLY, THINGS TURNED OUT VERY DIFFERENTLY.

UP TO NOW I'VE ONLY WRITTEN 6 MANGA BEFORE "WORLDS" "THE SOUND OF HAMELIN'S FLUTE" WON A DISTINCTION PRIZE IN THE ~COMPETITION~ AND AFTER THAT I FOLLOWED THE FLOW OF EVENTS, AND LIVED UNTIL NOW. THEN, I HAD NO IDEA ABOUT MANGA, AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I SHOULD DO, BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS VERY INTERESTING SO I STAYED IN THE MANGA WORLD. IT'S REALLY LIKE LIVING A "YIFUSHI" KIND OF LIFE.

TRANSLATORS NOTES.
"YIFUSHI REFERS TO WHAT YIFU FROM SAZAE-SAN ALWAYS DOES WHICH CAN ONLY HAPPEN IN MANGAS. HERE, FUJISAKI MEANS "LIKE IN THE MANGA".

I DON'T KNOW WHAT COMPETITION IT IS. PLUS, "SAZAE-SAN" IS A POPULAR ANIME SERIES IN JAPAN; IT'S REALLY TRADITIONAL AND A NATIONAL "ICON" OF JAPAN LIKE DORAEMON.

worlds ~ story 2
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WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT, "CARE-TAKER"?
I'M DONE EATING
BREAK-FAST IS DONE
BEEP

TIGHT ROPE

NEXT, PLEASE GO WASH YOUR FACE
OK, "CARE-TAKER"!
BEEP BEEP

IT'S TIME TO EAT
I'M DONE EATING "CARETAKER"
WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?
PLEASE FLICK THE SWITCHES OFF FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.
OK, "CARE-TAKER"
THEN, PLEASE GO WASH UP.

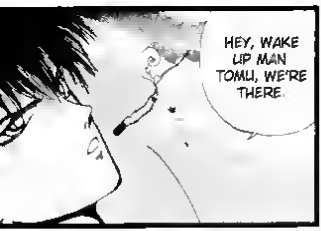
AFTER I WASH UP

WHAT SHOULD I DO, "CARE-TAKER"?
CHANGE YOUR CLOTHES PLEASE WEAR CLOTHING SET NUMBER 2.

TIGHT ROPE

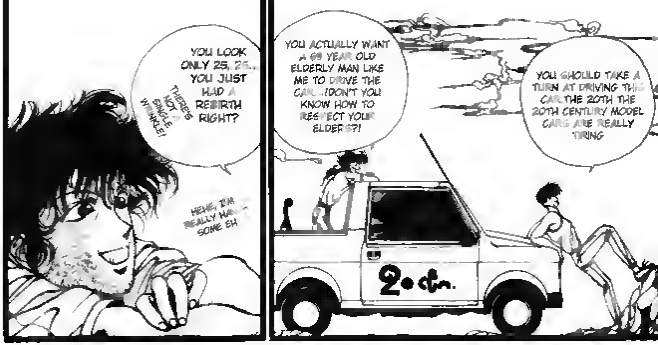
WHERE EVERY SINGLE PERSON IS UNDER THE CARE OF COMPUTERS...
THIS IS AN ERA

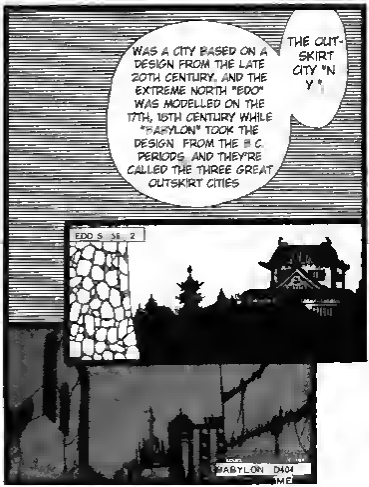
EVERYTHING IS TAKEN CARE OF BY THE CARE-TAKER COMPUTERS CREATED BY THE MINDS OF HUMANS


HEY, WAKE UP MAN TOMU, WE'RE THERE.

SO THAT'S THE SHIELDED CARE-TAKER CITY "DRIFTER" AND THE OUTSKIRT CITY "N Y" EH...

Yaawwwwwn
UGH—? WHAT, WE'RE THERE?
REALLY- YOU'RE SUCH A SLACKER


YOU LOOK ONLY 25, 26... YOU JUST HAD A REBIRTH RIGHT?
THERE'S NOT A SINGLE WRINKLE!
HEHE! I'M REALLY HAVING SOME EH
YOU ACTUALLY WANT A 68 YEAR OLD ELDERLY MAN LIKE ME TO DRIVE THE CAR!..IDON'T YOU KNOW HOW TO RESPECT YOUR ELDERS?!
YOU SHOULD TAKE A TURN AT DRIVING THIS CAR. THE 20TH THE 20TH CENTURY MODEL CARS ARE REALLY TIRING
20th.

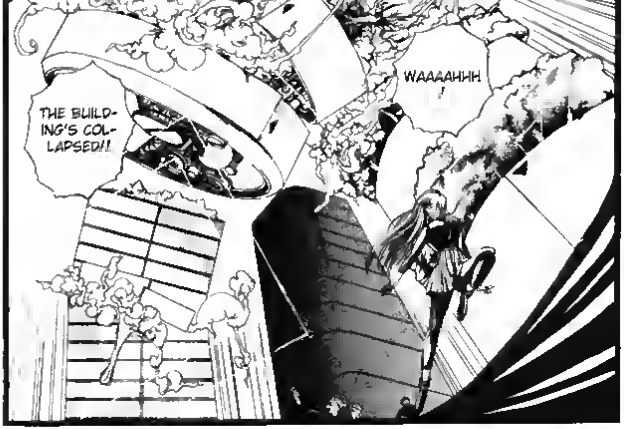

THE OUT-SKIRT CITY "N Y"
WAS A CITY BASED ON A DESIGN FROM THE LATE 20TH CENTURY, AND THE EXTREME NORTH "EDO" WAS MODELLED ON THE 17TH, 18TH CENTURY WHILE "BABYLON" TOOK THE DESIGN FROM THE B.C. PERIODS AND THEY'RE CALLED THE THREE GREAT OUTSKIRT CITIES
EDO S 35 2
BABYLON 0404 AM2

THOSE UNABLE TO ADJUST TO THE CARETAKER SYSTEM ARE CAST AWAY INTO THE NEIGHBORING OUTSKIRT CITY LIVING THE ANCIENT CITY LIVES OF PREVIOUS CENTURIES

THE CARETAKER CITY, THE FUNCTIONING OF ITS SOCIETY IS CONTROLLED BY THE SO CALLED BIOLOGICAL COMPUTER "CARETAKER"

THROUGH THE "SPHERE" PEOPLE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE CARETAKER TO ACT AND LIVE THEIR LIVES

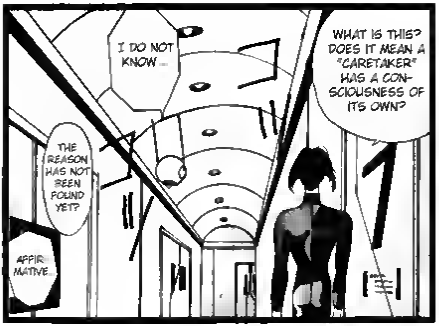
QUICK SHOOT!! OR SHE'LL GET AWAY!!
SHE SHE IS RUNNING INCREDIBLY FAST!
THERE SHE IS!
USE THE TRAN-QUILISER LASER!
WH.. WHAT'S THIS?!
I BEG OF YOU...
LET ME GO!

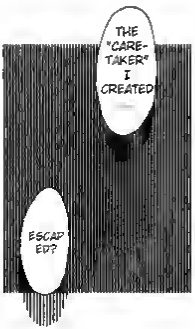

WAAAAHHH
THE BUILDING'S COLLAPSED!!

I DON'T WANT THEM TO TAKE ME BACK

NO ONE'S AFTER ME NOW

I DON'T WANT TO BE TIRED DOWN BY HUMANS ANYMORE


I DO NOT KNOW...
WHAT IS THIS? DOES IT MEAN A "CARETAKER" HAS A CONSCIOUSNESS OF ITS OWN?
THE REASON HAS NOT BEEN FOUND YET?
AFFIRMATIVE


THE "CARETAKER" I CREATED...
ESCAPED?

SHE WAS STILL IN THE PROCESS OF BEING EDUCATED. SHE HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN THE JOB OF BEING A "CARETAKER" YET
NUMBER 12... LANCER?
AFFIRMATIVE
THIS ROOM RIGHT?

WHAT ASTONISHING DESTRUCTIVE POWERS

SHE SEEMED TO HAVE USED TELEKINETIC POWERS TO BLOW UP THE WALL AND MAKE THE EXIT
KACHA KACHA...

...

IS SOMETHING THE MATTER DR VINCENT?
YOU ARE IDENTIFIED AS ID 8925 - S. DOCTOR VINCENT
8925
Dr. VINCE
CONVERSAT
PLEASE
PERMISSION GRANTED TO SPEAK WITH "CARETAKER" TOMLISHA
GREETINGS, "TOMLISHA". YOU PROBABLY ALREADY KNOW ABOUT "LANCER'S" ESCAPE?
YES. HER TELEKENETIC POWERS HAVE CAUSED MUCH DESTRUCTION
HER BRAIN WAVES AND PSYCHIC WAVES SHOWED NO SIGNS OF ABNORMALITY
THE REASON IS INCONCLUSIVE
YOU WERE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR EDUCATING LANCER...
AFFIRMATIVE
IS THAT SO... BUT, THIS IS A REALLY PECULIAR CASE
A "CARETAKER" WHOSE PSYCHE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY CONTROLLED ACTUALLY ESCAPED
HER PROGRAMMING PHASE HAS ALREADY BEEN COMPLETED
DO YOU HAVE ANY CLUES?

FOUR YEARS AGO, IN THE NORTH CARETAKER CITY "SORONTO", THERE WAS A CASE OF "CARETAKER BANDARDS" WHO ESCAPED FOR UNKNOWN REASONS.
HIS TELEKENESIS CAUSED "SORONTO" AND IT'S OUTSKIRT CITY 70% AND 40% DESTRUCTION RESPECTIVELY, AND LATER HE ESCAPED WITHOUT A TRACE, AND HIS WHEREABOUTS REMAIN STILL UNKNOWN TODAY.
APART FROM THAT, LANCER IS THE SECOND CASE.....
SHE IS NOT THE ONLY CASE.
HUH?
LOG OFF
THAT'S FINE. WE MUST FIRST BRING BACK LANCER.
PLEASE USE YOUR PSYCHIC POWERS TO TRACK LANCER, WE HAVE NO ALLOWANCE FOR MISTAKES
SO SOMETHING LIKE THIS ACTUALLY HAPPENED BEFORE
COMPARED TO HIM, LANCER IS MUCH CUTER
I BELIEVE SHE IS NO LONGER IN THIS "CARETAKER CITY DRIFTER"
SHE HAS PROBABLY GONE TO THE OUTSKIRT CITY "N.Y."

THE SAINT YAHZE WHO HAS BEEN HERE FOR 30 YEARS?
THE SAINT YANG! THAT'S THE BRAND OF AN ICE-BOX RIGHT? HAHAHA.
THIS CITY'S SAINT? WHAT?! I'VE NEVER HEARD OF IT BEFORE
AH... BUT IF YOU PLAY WITH ME I'LL TELL YOU!
PRETTY GIRL
WHAT... WHAT'S THAT, IS IT YUMMY? I REALLY WANT TO EAT IT AND TRY.
THE SAINT YAHZE?
SVEN. SO FAR YOU'VE BEATEN UP EVERY PERSON YOU'VE SPOKEN TO
イラ イラ
THIS CITY ONLY HAS IDIOTS!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
UGH IT'S A ROBOT
WELCOME IS THERE ANY-THING THAT I CAN HELP YOU WITH?
BEEP
TEN DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS.
BEEP
TEN DOLLARS TWENTY CENTS...
NO SMILE
TWO MEDIUM FRIES
UM. I WANT TWO CHEESE-BURGERS
TWO MEDIUM FRIES
UM TWO CHEESE-BURGERS.
BEEP
AND TWO LARGE COKES
AND TWO LARGE COKES BEEP UNDERSTOOD
あせ
あ
... BUT THE SAINT IS THE TALKING POINT OF THE ENTIRE WORLD NOW
THAT'S TO SAY THE PEOPLE HERE ARE COMPLETELY INCAPABLE AND ARE JUST PLAIN OLD BUMS
THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO! THE PEOPLE IN THE OUTSKIRT CITIES ARE ALL THOSE UNABLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE SYSTEM OF THE CARETAKER CITY
イラ

IN THIS OUTSKIRT CITY, YOU CAN'T BUY ANYTHING WITHOUT MONEY.
HUH
IT'S REALLY INCONVENIENT HERE
OH THIS? IT'S CALLED MONEY
MOTH $25
ABA $17
THOMAS WHAT'S THAT?
BUT SVEN
THIS CITY WAS MODELLED ON THE 20TH CENTURY.
IT'S JUST THAT IN THE REAL 20TH CENTURY, MONEY IS EARNED THROUGH HARD WORK
IN "N.Y." YOU CAN GET IT ANYWHERE EASILY.
SINCE THEY WANT TO BUILD DOG HOUSES, WHY DON'T THEY BUILD STRUCTURES FROM DIFFERENT GENERATIONS.
AS HERITAGE SITES FOR THE CARETAKER CITY
LIKE THOSE FROM THE DYNASTIES
OR MORE RECENTLY
IT'S A PRETTY DOG-HOUSE FOR FOOLS UNABLE TO ADJUST TO THE SYSTEM IN THE CARETAKER CITY!
YEAH, AFTER ALL, THE OUTSKIRT CITY IS MERELY AN ORNAMENT OF THE CARETAKER CITY
THERE'S NO NEED TO PUT IT SO CRUDELY, RIGHT...?

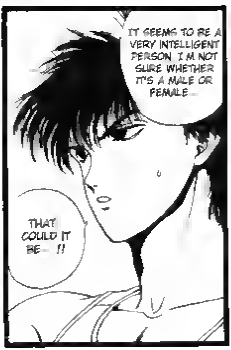
WHY'S THERE A COMMOTION OUTSIDE?
UM?

THERE THERE'S NO NEED FOR SO MUCH, RIGHT...
---- HEY, BALL!... OH NO, I MEAN, ROBOT!! GIVE ME ANOTHER FOUR BIG MACS!!
FOUR BIG MACS...
BEEP

I'M GOING TO TAKE A LOCK THOMAS
WHAT A BUSY-BODY
ずん
ずん

HEY!! HAVE THEY STOPPED LETTING PEOPLE IN ?!?
LET ME IN!!
SHUT UP YOU PIGHEAD!
HEY! DID ANYTHING INTERESTING HAPPEN?

LET ME IN!!
HEY GET OUT OF MY WAY!!!
IDIOT!!
OUCH!!
COME ON DON'T DO THAT
HEY HEY SVEN!


IT SEEMS TO BE A VERY INTELLIGENT PERSON. I'M NOT SURE WHETHER IT'S A MALE OR FEMALE...
THAT COULD IT BE--!!

I'M NOT SURE MYSELF, BUT I HEARD THAT IN THIS STORE...
THERE'S A REAL BEAUTY

NEW! LYCHEE JUICE!
HUH?!

AH...
THIS SHOP FEELS REALLY GLOOMY..

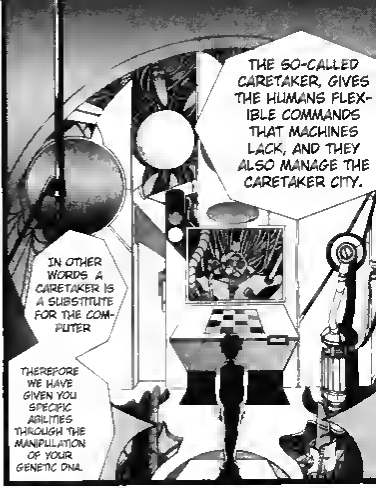
WHY DID THE GUESTS QUIETEN DOWN?
NOW I UNDER-STAND

SHE'S TOO BEAUTI-FUL, ALMOST LIKE AN ANGEL
IS SHE HUMAN ?

I AM THE SAINT YAHZE.
WHAT DO YOU WISH TO KNOW FROM ME...?
HOW SHOULD I DESCRIBE HER VOICE...?!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE MET...
DID YOU TWO COME LOOKING FOR ME?
HUH?
THE BEAUTY OF THE UNIVERSE YAHZE!!
SO SHE IS THE SAINT!
THERE IS NOTHING I DO NOT KNOW.
WHAT IS YOUR QUESTION?
HMPH
THIS IS REALLY SUPRISING HOW DID YOU KNOW?
YEAH! WE CAME TO "N.Y." JUST TO SEE YOU!

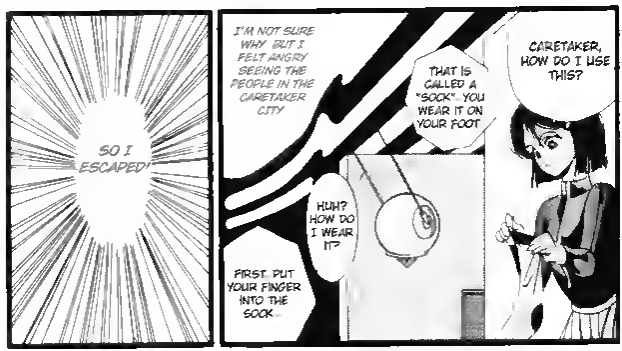
I'D LIKE TO UNDERSTAND.
MYSELF.
A LONG TIME AGO,
I WAS A CARETAKER.
SVEN, YOU ARE...
A MAN-ENGINEERED BIOLOGICAL ORGANISM MEANT TO BECOME A CARETAKER. YOUR GENOTYPE IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL TO HUMAN BEINGS.
THEREFORE, APART FROM PROCEDURES A CARETAKER NEEDS TO PERFORM, YOU ARE NOT TO LEARN ANYTHING ELSE
WITHOUT THE COMMANDS OF THE CARETAKERS, HUMANS CAN DO NOTHING. WE MUST EXIST FOR THEIR SAKE.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE THE HEART OF HUMANS
PLEASE LEARN ONLY CARE TAKING SVEN!


THE SO-CALLED CARETAKER, GIVES THE HUMANS FLEXIBLE COMMANDS THAT MACHINES LACK, AND THEY ALSO MANAGE THE CARETAKER CITY.
IN OTHER WORDS A CARETAKER IS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE COMPUTER
THEREFORE WE HAVE GIVEN YOU SPECIFIC ABILITIES THROUGH THE MANIPULATION OF YOUR GENETIC DNA.

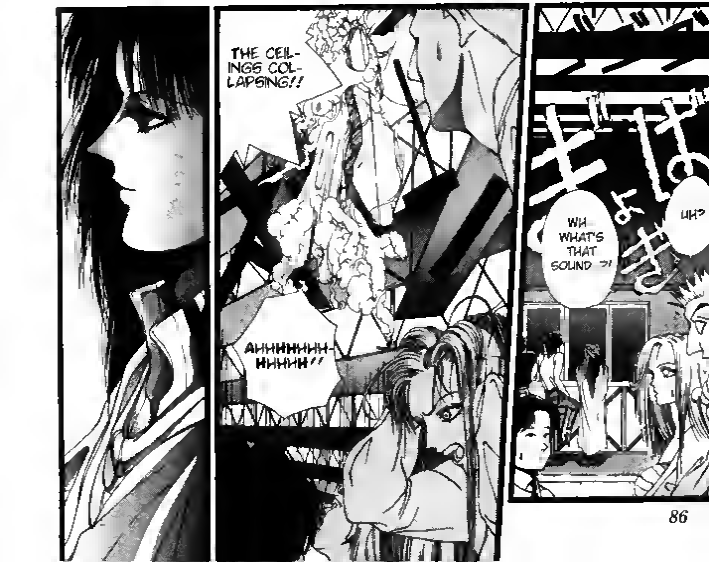
BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT ONE OF THEM

BUT I DIDN'T LIKE IT AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHY
IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A CRIMELESS UTOPIAN CITY

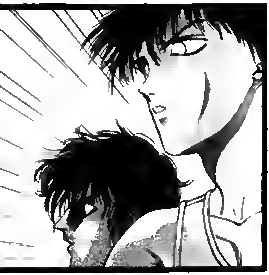

SO I ESCAPED!
I'M NOT SURE WHY BUT I FELT ANGRY SEEING THE PEOPLE IN THE CARETAKER CITY
CARETAKER, HOW DO I USE THIS?
THAT IS CALLED A "SOCK". YOU WEAR IT ON YOUR FOOT
HUH? HOW DO I WEAR IT?
FIRST, PUT YOUR FINGER INTO THE SOCK...

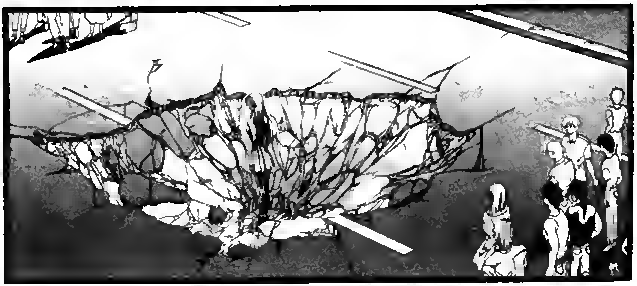
I CAN STAND IT NO LONGER.
PLEASE ENLIGHTEN ME, MS SAINT.
WHY DIDN'T I WANT TO BE A CARETAKER?
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT FEELING?
THAT WAS WHAT I WAS CREATED FOR.
SVEN WATCH YOUR TONE!
I DO NOT NEED TO SAY MUCH ABOUT THAT MATTER
YOU WILL FIND YOUR ANSWER VERY SOON
IT IS ALL DECIDED BY GOD
THINGS WILL HAPPEN AS FATE MEANT IT TO BE
YOU WILL SOON MEET A GIRL, AND FIND THE KEY TO UNDERSTANDING YOURSELF
EVERY-THING...
IS FATED.

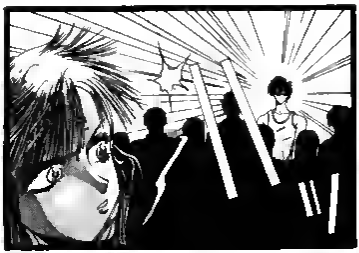
SOON,
YOU SHALL SEE HER IN 2 OR 3 MORE MINUTES.
SVEN, YOU SHALL BRING HER WESTWARDS AND SEEK THE CARETAKER CREATOR THAT MADE YOU
SOME GIRL?
WHO IS SHE?
THAT WAY, THE ROAD WILL OPEN FOR YOU
WHAT DID THAT MEAN? PLEASE MAKE THINGS CLEARER!!
THAT IS FOR YOU TO FIND OUT
COME ON, DON'T SAY THAT!!
SPEAKING TO SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SAINT LIKE THAT
EVEN REALLY CHAINLESS


UH?
WH WHAT'S THAT SOUND ?!
THE CEILINGS COLLAPSING!!
AHHHHHHHHHHHH!!

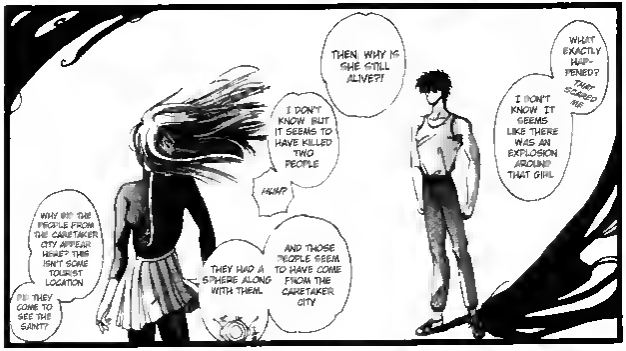
TIGHT ROPE







I KNOW
YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL SVEN THAT'S


WHY DO THE PEOPLE FROM THE CARETAKER CITY APPEAR HERE? THIS ISN'T SOME TOURIST LOCATION
DO THEY COME TO SEE THE SAINT?
THEY HAD A SPHERE ALONG WITH THEM.
AND THOSE PEOPLE SEEM TO HAVE COME FROM THE CARETAKER CITY
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE KILLED TWO PEOPLE
THEN, WHY IS SHE STILL ALIVE?!
I DON'T KNOW IT SEEMS LIKE THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION AROUND THAT GIRL
WHAT EXACTLY HAP-PENED? THAT SCARED ME

WHO ARE YOU?!
YOU ---!!

STRANGE PERSON STRANGE PERSON STRANGE PERSON!
WHY DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE "TELEPA-THY"?
I'M GUESSING YOU'RE A CARE-TAKER FROM DRIFTER.
WHY ARE YOU HERE IN THIS OUTSKIRT CITY?!
IF SO, I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU AS WELL!
YOU'RE FROM THE CARETAKER CITY TO CAPTURE ME AREN'T YOU?
THAT GIRL DOESN'T SEEM SAFE!
LETS GET OUT OF HERE AS WELL!
REST ASSURED, I AM NOT YOUR ENEMY.
EVEN IF IT'S A NORMAL PERSON, THERE SHOULD STILL BE SOME WHO CAN TELE-PORT!
AH--- MONSTER!!
HEY SVEN, WHAT S WITH YOU?!
RUN----!!
NOT AN ENEMY? THEN, PROVE IT TO ME
OPEN UP YOUR "HEART"!

YOU WANT TO READ MY HEART HUH... ALRIGHT
THEN... SEE IT!
JUST NOW...
I'M REALLY SORRY
SHE FLEW?

I DON'T WANT THEM TO BRING ME BACK TO THAT PLACE...
BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE UNDER THEIR CONTROL ANYMORE...
AH... THIS TIME IT'S MY TURN TO SEE HER HEART...
TELL ME,
SVEN.
WHY
DO WE HAVE TO OBEY THE WILL OF OTHERS TO ACT?
WE...
HUMAN-ENGINEERED THINGS...
DO WE HAVE TO BE BOUND TO HUMANS FOREVER?
THIS PERSON,
SHARES MY EXACT SAME SENTIMENTS

CREATOR?
YES! DON'T JUDGE MY APPEARANCE I'M ACTUALLY PRETTY FAMOUS!!

I'M A CREATOR, NICE TO MEET YOU!
HI LANCER, I'M THOMAS RICK II. 26 YEARS OLD
THE CREATOR OF CARETAKERS
HE ACTUALLY DESCRIBED HIM AS 43 YEARS YOUNGER

BECAUSE OF MY PROFESSION I HAVE TAKEN AN INTEREST IN HIM, SO I TAGGED ALONG WITH HIM.
I'VE KNOWN SVEN FOR FOUR YEARS...

DON'T COME NEAR ME! I HATE CREATORS!
OH COME ON, LANCER!

ビッ

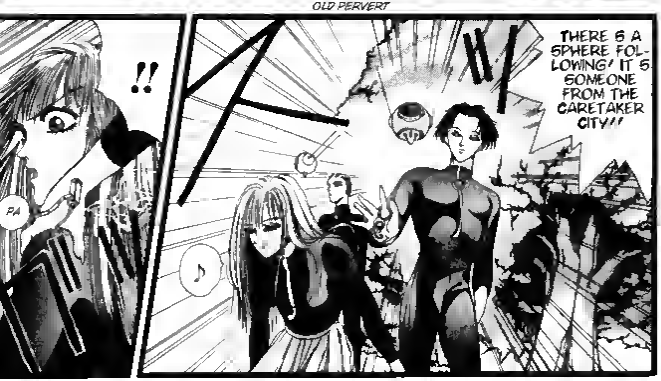
ささっ

バコッ

BECAUSE VERY LITTLE CARETAKERS ARE LIKE HIM... AH...

SVE N
UH
HE'S BEDAZ-ZLED SUCH A CUTE...
GRRR --- THAT SVEN'S REALLY GOOD ---
YOU STAY HERE AN BE NICE TO THOMAS!
I'M GOING TO LOOK FOR YANJI FOR A BIT. I NEED TO TALK TO HER.
SVEN'S BEEN GONE FOR QUITE SOME TIME...

OLD PERVERT


!!
PA
♪
THERE'S A SPHERE FOL-LOWING! IT'S SOMEONE FROM THE CARETAKER CITY!!

LAN LANCER!
YAA AAHHHH-HHH!!!

AH...
SVEN...
...?
HUH..... WHERE'S LANCER?

I CAN'T FIND HER AT ALL...
--- GOD-DAM-MIT, DAMN THAT YANJI!

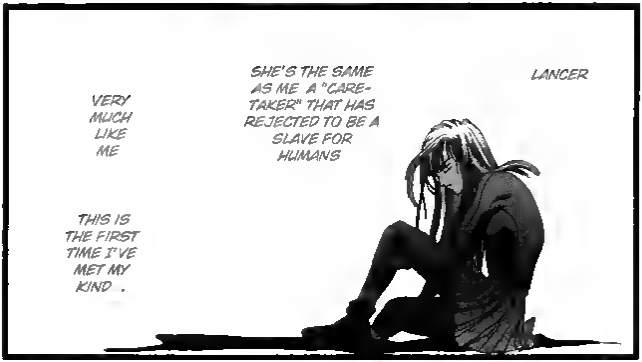
THIS IS BAD, SVEN.
THOMAS!! WHAT HAP-PENED!

ARE YOU OKAY? THEY HIT YOU UP PRETTY BAD HUH?

ARGH! IT HURTS!

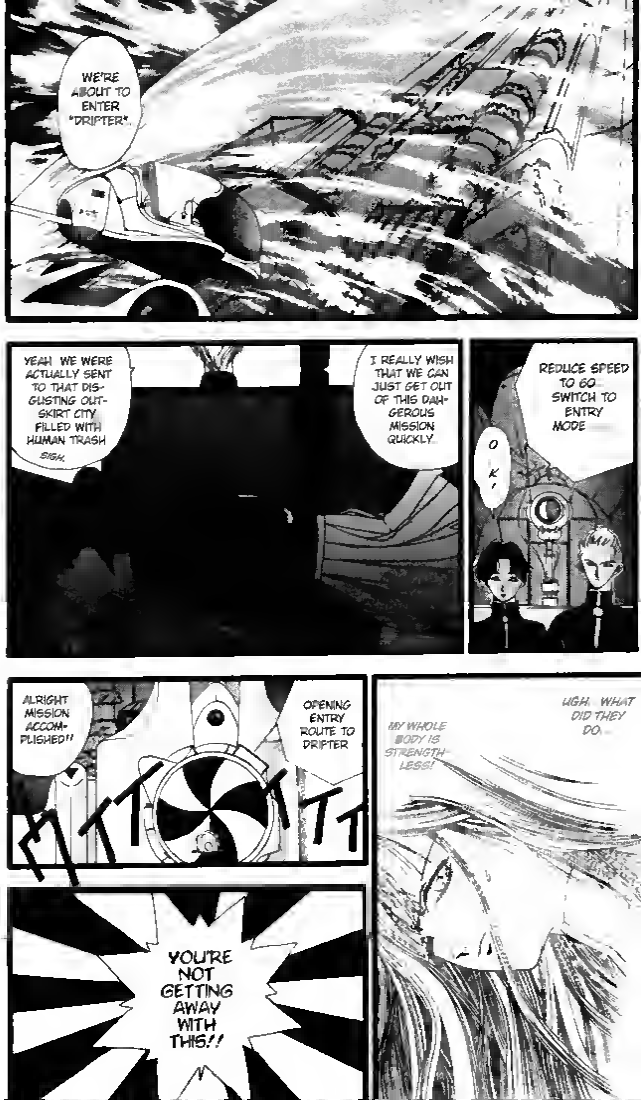
WHAT?!
LANCER'S BEEN TAKEN AWAY BY SOME GUYS WITH SPHERES FOLLOWING THEM!

YOU PIECE OF TRASH!
ACTUALLY NO. I'M JUST HAVING A SORE WAIST.


LANCER
SHE'S THE SAME AS ME. A "CARE-TAKER" THAT HAS REJECTED TO BE A SLAVE FOR HUMANS
VERY MUCH LIKE ME
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE MET MY KIND.

YEAH, AND SHE'S PROBABLY THE "GIRL" THE SAINT TALKED ABOUT ---
SHE MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT YOU!
SHE... WAS SO DEPENDENT ON ME... I CAN'T TURN BACK ON HER!

WE'RE RUNNING OF SHADING PAPER... AHH

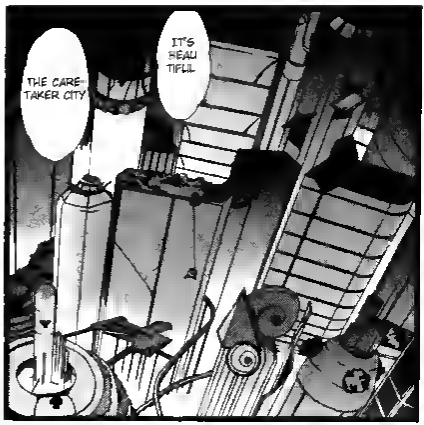

WE'RE ABOUT TO ENTER "DRIPTER".
YEAH. WE WERE ACTUALLY SENT TO THAT DISGUSTING OUTSKIRT CITY FILLED WITH HUMAN TRASH
SIGH.
I REALLY WISH THAT WE CAN JUST GET OUT OF THIS DANGEROUS MISSION QUICKLY.
REDUCE SPEED TO 60. SWITCH TO ENTRY MODE.
O K !
ALRIGHT MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!
OPENING ENTRY ROUTE TO DRIPTER
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH THIS!!
MY WHOLE BODY IS STRENGTHLESS!
UGH. WHAT DID THEY DO.

WAHH
LATERAL VIEW
WHERE... WHERE DID YOU COME FROM...
SVEN!
BUTT OCK ATT! OK!
AH. THIS IS BAD.
WE'VE ENTERED DRIFTER!!
ACTUALLY THAT WAS JUST TELE-PORTATION.
SVEN APPEARED FROM THE BAT JUST TO SAVE LANCER!
SWERVE

AH--- WHAT DO WE DO!!
WHAT?
AH.
BEEP BEEP
WEIGHT CAPACITY LIMIT EXCEEDED UNABLE TO CONTROL
AHHHH!
WAHH WHATS GOING ON!?
CARE TAKER WHAT IS THAT ABOUT?!

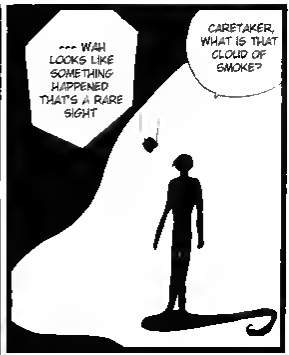
GOOD JOB, SVEN!
SVEN?
PANT
ARGH!!
SVEN!!....
HEH, IT'S NOT ANYTHING SERIOUS.
HEHE
BUT SVEN, IF WE DON'T GET OUT QUICK, WON'T WE GET DISCOVERED BY THE CARETAKERS?
HEY, HIS INJURY IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT!
USING TIME FREEZE AFTER TELEPORTATION IS TOO MUCH
SVEN, YOU'VE USED TOO MUCH OF YOUR TELEKINETIC POWERS
BECAUSE YOU USED IT TWICE

I UNDERSTAND YOUR PAIN
BECAUSE YOU HAVE A HEART
COMPARED TO TELEPORTING PHYSICAL OBJECTS, I'M MUCH BETTER AT
ALTHOUGH I'M NOT AS POWERFUL AS YOU...
HEALING!
BAH, KIDS!!
OH IT'S OKAY, I JUST SHARED A LITTLE BIT OF YOUR PAIN!
WHY DO YOU TREAT ME SO... IT'S REALLY STRANGE
HANDSOME GUY
BUT...
LANCER.



FROM THE LATTER HALF OF THE 23RD CENTURY, THIS CARETAKER CITY SYSTEM PROPOSED BY YORAIKA FON

HAS NOW BEEN COMPLETELY OCCUPIED BY HUMANS. THIS IS A CRIMELESS UTOPIA



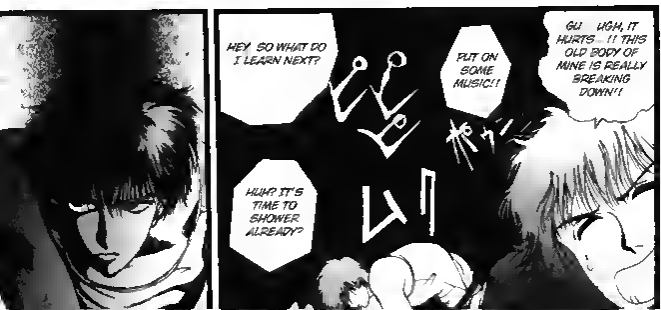
I WILL CAPTURE THEM.
ILLEGAL INTRUDERS DISCOVERED.
WAHH
IT'S A TRAP---!!
HUH!
ぽか
SVEN!
ARGH WHERE IS THIS SLIDING TUNNEL LEADING TO!
WE'VE BEEN FOUND BY THE CARETAKERS!!
THE WHOLE CITY'S SYSTEM IS ACTIVATED!

IT WORKED -- SVEN!
ALL OF YOU HOLD ONTO ME!!
UH... THOMAS
WAHH!! I CAN'T FIND YOU!!
AFTER YOU GRAB ONTO ME, I'LL TELEPORT US OUT OF HERE!
AHHH---!!
NERVOUS
THAT'S THE EXIT!
AFFIRMATIVE!
LAN.. LANCER.. LE'S FOLLOW HIM AS WELL.

LANCER FLY!! GRAB ONTO ME!!
WAHHH, WERE FALLING DOWN!!

!!

WAH...
I...
I'M COM-
PLETELY
DRAINED OF
STRENGTH.
...IKE THAT
TIME WITH
THE
ELECTRIC
CURRENT


HEY. SO WHAT DO I LEARN NEXT?
PUT ON SOME MUSIC!!
GU... UGH, IT HURTS...!! THIS OLD BODY OF MINE IS REALLY BREAKING DOWN!!
HUH? IT'S TIME TO SHOWER ALREADY?

OK, CARE-TAKER
WHO SHOULD I PLAY WITH DURING MY FREE TIME?
WHAT GOOD MOVIE IS THERE TO WATCH?
LOOK FOR KAORI TODAY

OK, "CARE-TAKER".
OK, "CARE-TAKER"

OK...? CARETAKER.

AND CAUSED MY CARE-TAKER TO GIVE ME A SCOLDING
COME HERE!
PROFESSOR JACINTHA...
YOU ACTU ALLY RUN AWAY
WHAT'S GOING ON?
LANCER...
ぴく
hold m tightly
YES...
PROFESSOR..? SHE'S THE CREATOR OF LANCER?
SO IT IS YOU, PROFES-SOR RICK
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
UHH... NO...
THAT GENIUS CREATOR WITH AN IQ OF 320 RIGHT?
THAT MAN WITH THE BEARD... YOU'RE PRO-FESSOR THOMAS RICK II RIGHT?
HUH?
AH?!

LANCER, YOU HAVE WORK AT HAND! COME HERE
YOU WON'T LISTEN TO MY ORDERS?
IT IS I WHO MADE YOU!!
DON'T BE SO CRUEL.
OH YES, YOU'RE ALSO A CREATOR! GET OUT OF MY SIGHT!!
WHETHER HE IS OR NOT DOESN'T MATTER!
AND, DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH EFFORT AND TIME I'VE SPENT ON YOU...?
THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE. I AM ALSO SUBJECT TO THE LAW...
PROFESSOR PLEASE, LET ME GO!
...

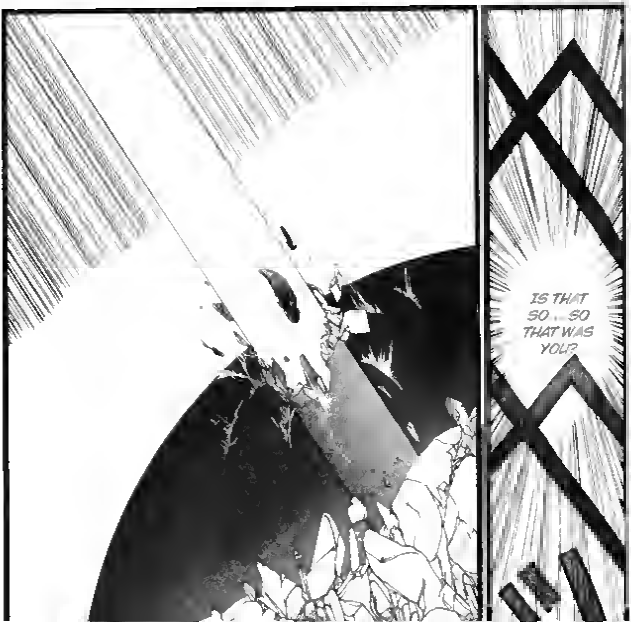
ヴォン
ヴォン
DESTROY THAT CARE-TAKER !!
LOOKS LIKE TALKING WON'T GET US ANY-WHERE!!
!!
DON'T GET TOO ARRO-GANT!
WHAT.. WHAT'S THIS?!
THAT ELEC-TRIC CURRENT WILL SEAL YOUR TELEKI-NESIS!
I'LL JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU CAN'T MOVE, AND THEN BRAINWASH YOU!!

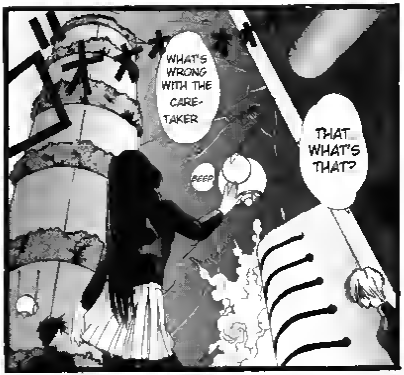
WE WILL NEVER BE HELD DOWN BY HUMANS AGAIN!
HOW CAN SUCH A WEAK THING HOLD US?!

AH!!
I SHALL DESTROY ALL THESE COM-PLETELY---!!

AHH...
ALL OF THE CARETAK-ERS
AH!
AH!
ARE SLOWLY COLLAPS-ING
WHO ARE YOU?
HEHE.

I AM THE NORTH SORONTO'S BABYLON!!
I WAS ALSO A CARE-TAKER BEFORE


IS THAT SO... SO THAT WAS YOU?


WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CARE-TAKER
BEEP
THAT... WHAT'S THAT?

MY SPHERE'S MY SPHERE'S FALLEN!!
NINE TOO!! THEY'RE ALL FALLING!

HUH?

OK?
CARE-TAKER...

ANSWER ME CARE-TAKER
CARE-TAKER, WHY DID IT DROP?
WAAHHH-HHH!?
CARE-TAKER!!
FLY, FLY!!

BUT, THE FUTURE OF HUMANKIND IS WORRYING
NO MATTER HOW ADVANCED CIVILISATION IS, IF HUMANS CHOOSES TO BECOME LIKE THIS ANYWAYS
MY ABILITY TO FORETELL THE FUTURE HAS TOLD ME THIS
THEN SLOWLY BUT SURELY, HIS PATH IS TO TOTAL ANNIHILATION
SVEN,
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN WHAT YOU SEEK.
BECAUSE THAT IS SOMETHING UNDERSTOOD BY THE PEOPLE THREE CENTURIES AGO
IT IS ONLY THAT IT HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN BY THE PEOPLE OF THE PRESENT

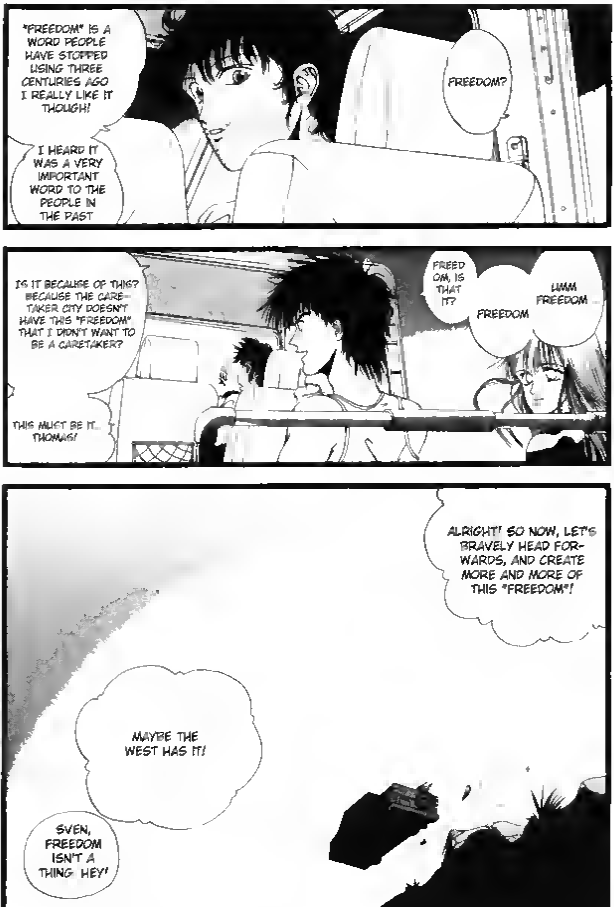
IF IT IS INTERFERRED BY "HUMAN-ENGINEERED-HUMANS" WHO ARE FREE FROM THE CHAINS OF FATE.....
BUT.. PERHAPS THAT FUTURE OF DESTRUCTION CAN BE CHANGED.
HAIR STYLE
USE YOUR POWERS TO CHANGE THE FATE OF HUMANS
GOD HAS NOT CONSTRICTED YOU..
THAT IS WHAT I HAVE USED YOU FOR
SVEN, NOW PLEASE ACT AS I HAVE INTENDED FOR YOU TO!
WE HUMANS WERE CREATED BY GOD, AND WE HAVE TO FOLLOW THE FATE AS WRITTEN FOR US BY GOD
BUT, FOR THE BEINGS CREATED BY HUMANS, THEY DO NOT LIVE UNDER THE WILL OF GOD

WELL, I GUESS THAT'S IT WE'LL HEAD WEST, AND LOOK FOR MY CREATOR..
IN THE END, YAHZE REALLY TOLD ME NOTHING..

BUT, LANCER,
YAHZE SAID YOU WOULD TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF
IS DRIVING

SO WE'RE HEADING WEST?
YEAH.. JUST GO THAT WAY... AH..
LANCER, DO YOU HAVE ANYWHERE YOU WANT TO GO?
ブロンブロン
AS LONG AS I'M WITH SVEN, I'LL GO ANY WHERE!
HEY THOMAS DID YOU HEAR THAT? SHE'S SO CUTE---!
WHAT-EVER.

I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING
I ONLY KNOW THAT I WANTED FREEDOM..


"FREEDOM" IS A WORD PEOPLE HAVE STOPPED USING THREE CENTURIES AGO I REALLY LIKE IT THOUGH!
I HEARD IT WAS A VERY IMPORTANT WORD TO THE PEOPLE IN THE PAST
FREEDOM?
IS IT BECAUSE OF THIS? BECAUSE THE CARE-TAKER CITY DOESN'T HAVE THIS "FREEDOM" THAT I DIDN'T WANT TO BE A CARETAKER?
THIS MUST BE IT.. THOMAS!
FREED OM, IS THAT IT?
FREEDOM
LMM FREEDOM
ALRIGHT! SO NOW, LET'S BRAVELY HEAD FOR-WARDS, AND CREATE MORE AND MORE OF THIS "FREEDOM"!
MAYBE THE WEST HAS IT!
SVEN, FREEDOM ISN'T A THING HEY!

TIGHT ROPE

I THINK PROBABLY MANY PEOPLE THINK THAT MY MANGA CAN BE SEPARATED INTO TWO GENRES. BUT, I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT OF DOING SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM THE REST. IN HAMLET, I FOCUSED ON THE COSTUMES AND DECORATIONS, IN WORLDS I PAID MORE ATTENTION TO THE STORY, IN SHADOW-DISEASE I TOOK MORE NOTICE OF THE ART AND PRESENTATION, SOUL OF KNIGHT WAS A FOCUS ON THE MANGA FEEL AND IN TIGHT ROPE, I FOCUSED ON THE EXPRESSION OF EMOTIONS.

IN THIS PIECE OF WORK, I HOPE READERS CAN SOMEWHAT FEEL, EVEN IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE BIT, THE FEELING OF BEIND TIED DOWN AND IT'S CONSTRAINTS.

HOWEVER, DO YOU GUYS EVER WONDER WHY "FREEDOM" AND "LOVE" ARE ABSTRACT CONCEPTS THAT ARE A LITTLE EMBARASSING? THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE EVEN UNTIL TODAY I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I HAVE "FREEDOM" AND "LOVE". THAT'S WHY, EVEN UNTIL TODAY I STILL FEEL THAT USING THE WORD "FREEDOM" HERE IS A LITTLE EMBARASSING.

MANY READERS HAVE HOPED FOR THIS WORK TO HAVE A "SEQUEL". PERHAPS I MIGHT DO IT, IF THERE'S A CHANCE...? BUT THAT'S NOT TOO POSSIBLE...

wonkis- story 3
"tight rope"

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SHADOW DISEASE

LOOK! THIS GUY'S PRETTY AMUSING...
HE LOOKS LIKE AN ELEMENTARY GRADE SCHOOLER!

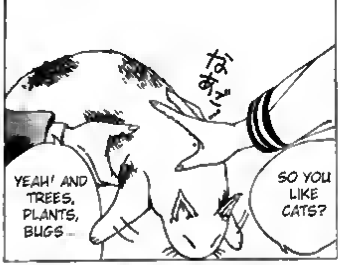
HEHEHE, IT'S PORN!!

HEY ALEX! I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SHOW YOU!
UH... WHAT IS IT?

HE'S REALLY AMUSING HAHAHA!
THOSE BOYS! TEASING ALEX AGAIN!
GIGGLE
WHO IS, WHO IS?
HEY.. YOU OKAY?
かくん…
HEARTBROKEN
WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SHADOWS
むしば!
YOU'RE TOO INNO-CENT
ALEX.
YOU FAINTED AT THE MERE SIGHT OF A NAKED WOMAN...
保健室

I'M REALLY SORRY MEILING... THANKS FOR TAKING CARE OF ME UNTIL SUCH A LATE HOUR...
OH... IS THAT SO IT'S STILL A LITTLE EMBARASSING THOUGH...
IT'S ALRIGHT' THE GYM TEACHER WASN'T AVAILABLE ANYWAYS...
I'M USELESS...
WHY AM I LIKE THIS...
.....

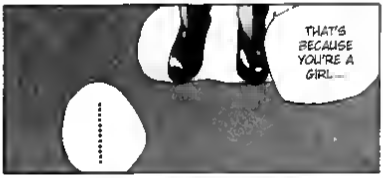
A PERSON'S WORTH ISN'T DECIDED ON WHETHER HE FAINTS AFTER SEEING A PORNOGRAPHIC PICTURE
THAT'S WHAT I THINK
DON'T SAY THAT!
YOU'RE RIGHT
THANKS, MEILING
LOOK, LOOK! SUCH A CUTE CAT!!
ぼてっ
hee-hee-
AH.
YEP.
THE ARRIVAL OF PIG-CAT


なぁ～
YEAH! AND TREES, PLANTS, BUGS...
SO YOU LIKE CATS?

STRANGE CAT...

.....

YEAH IT'S REALLY CUTE--! LET ME TOUCH IT...
HAHAHAHA, GOOD KITTY!


THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE A GIRL...
.....

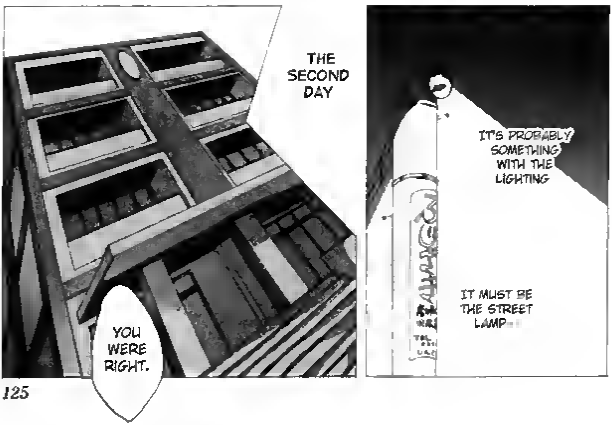
A NORMAL GUY... WOULDN'T BE SO EXCITED TO SEE A CAT
AND HE WOULDN'T DAYDREAM WHILE GAZING AT THE TREES AND SKIES...
HUH? I DO!

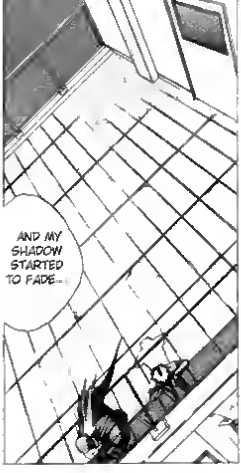
A...ALEX! YOUR SHADOW!! ...

!?

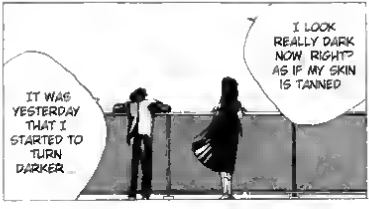
IT'S WEIRD

THE CAT'S SHADOW SIMPLY OVERLAPS YOURS
IT'S LIKE YOUR SHADOW IS THIN...


THE SECOND DAY
YOU WERE RIGHT.
IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING WITH THE LIGHTING
IT MUST BE THE STREET LAMP...


AND MY SHADOW STARTED TO FADE...

MY SHADOW REALLY SEEMS TO BE GETTING THINNER...


I LOOK REALLY DARK NOW, RIGHT? AS IF MY SKIN IS TANNED
IT WAS YESTERDAY THAT I STARTED TO TURN DARKER...

AM I DYING?
MIGHT I BE JUST A SPIRIT?
WILL I JUST GET SWALLOWED BY MY SHADOW LIKE THIS...?

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?
WHAT'S HAPPENING TO YOU?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY
BUT...
DON'T CRY
EY...
YEAH... THANKS...
EVERYTHING WILL BE OKAY TOMORROW!
DON'T WORRY
MEILING...
AS THE DAY WENT INTO THE SUNSET MY SHADOW CONTINUED TO FADE...
UH...

HEY!

JUST A LITTLE BIT WOULD DO.
IF YOU HAVE MONEY TO GO FOR A VACATION, HELP OUT A BROTHER HERE!

WHAT SCHOOL ARE YOU FROM? YOU'RE REALLY TANNED!
DID YOU JUST COME BACK FROM A VACATION?

THESE TWO ARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLERS!
HEY HEY WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? SAY SOME THING

.....

I BOUGHT YOU A VANILLA FLAVORED ONE! HUH? WHO'RE THEY?

しお。
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING, ALEX!
ダダダ

PFFT THAT GUY SEEMS TO BE A RETARD. LET'S GO!
WHAT WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO ARE THEY?
AH... UH... YEAH...
オドロギロ
WHA... WHAT? YOU'RE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?!
I...
I SHOULDN'T BE LIKE THIS
I REALLY DISLIKE THE WAY I AM?
ALEX?
I... I HAVE TO GO!
WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SHADOWS.

ALTHOUGH MY SHADOW IS FADING IT HASN'T AFFECTED MY DAY-TO-DAY LIFE!
DING
BUT, WHAT I'M AFRAID MOST IS THAT MY PARENTS WILL TREAT ME LIKE A FREAK.
AH... HUH?
THIS... THIS ISN'T THE FOURTH FLOOR.

1592
3.14
THE RATIO OF THE CIRCUMFERENCE TO THE DIAMETER OF A CIRCLE
IS THERE SUCH A FLOOR?
FLOOR?
TRANSLATORS NOTE: THE SYMBOL IS CALLED 'PIE'
THE ELEVATOR...
AH...
GULP
WAIT A MINUTE WHAT'S GOING ON?!
HUH?
WA...

WHY DO STRANGE THINGS KEEP HAPPENING TO ME

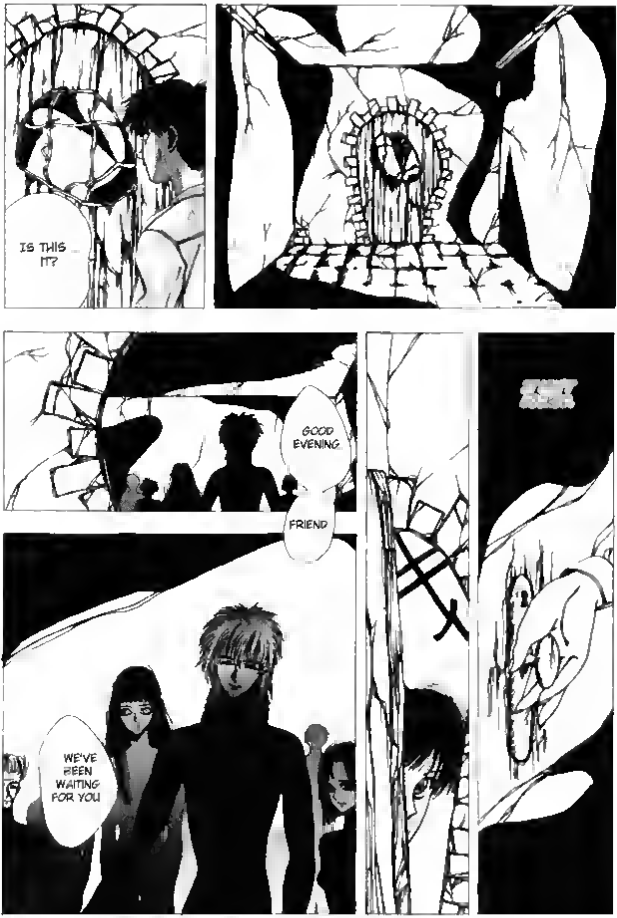
WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SHADOWS
PLEASE WALK OVER TO THAT END

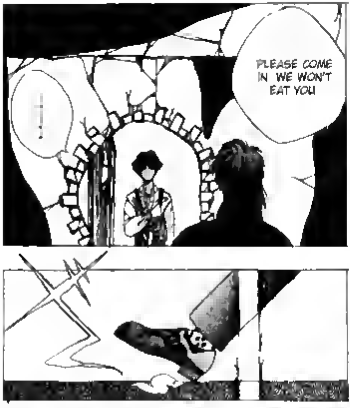
WELCOME

.....

YES AND SO COME ON OVER
FRIEND
EH
ONLY THAT PATH IS OPEN...
3 1 4 1 5 9 2
9 3 5 3 5 8 9 7
π
BUT WHY DO I REMEMBER SUCH POINT-LESS THINGS?
6 2 6 4 3
MY RESULTS IN SCHOOL ARE DEFI NITELY NOWHERE NEAR GOOD

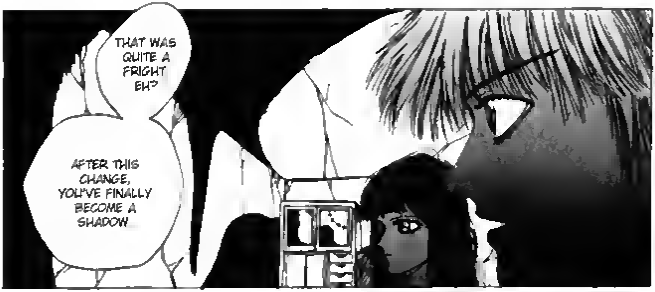
IT'S SUCH A NARROW ROAD AN I'LL BE HEADING TOWARDS THE LARGE COMPLEX WHERE IS AT
THIS IS A LONG AN MEANING LESS ROAD
SO LONG
QUITE SOME TIME SHOULD HAVE PASSED ALREADY
AH!
THIS IS NOT YOUR HOME YOU ARE IN THE WORLD OF SHADOWS
YOU'RE RIGHT. YOUR NAME IS ALEX, RIGHT?
THE INFINITELY SMALL DIGITS OF PIE
MATH
IS THIS ROAD ENDLESS?
JUST LIKE THE DECIMAL DIGITS OF PIE

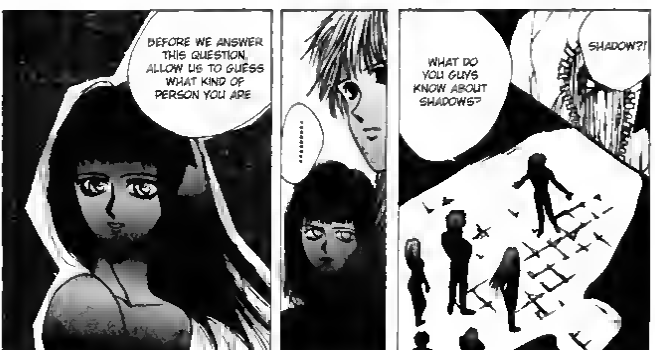

IS THIS IT?
GOOD EVENING, FRIEND.
WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.


PLEASE COME IN. WE WON'T EAT YOU
!

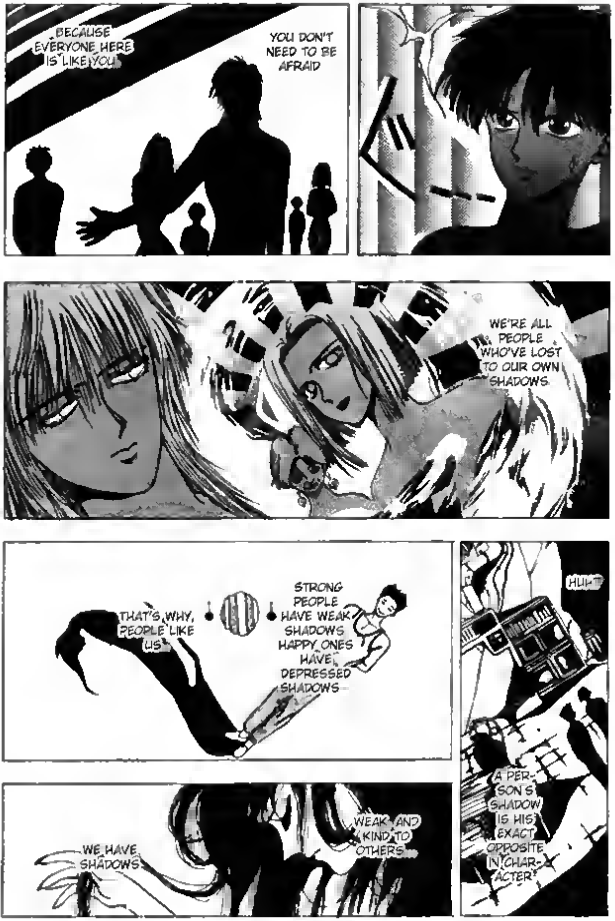
GOOD EVENING
THEY'RE EVEN DARKER THAN I AM!

AH!


THAT WAS QUITE A FRIGHT EH?
AFTER THIS CHANGE, YOU'VE FINALLY BECOME A SHADOW


BEFORE WE ANSWER THIS QUESTION, ALLOW US TO GUESS WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE
.....
WHAT DO YOU GUYS KNOW ABOUT SHADOWS?
SHADOW?!

HAVE A PASSION FOR PLANTS & ANIMALS. AND CARE FOR EVERY-ONE
YOU'RE A WARM PERSON TO OTHERS.
ALSO, YOU RE VERY WEAK AND CRUMBLE EASILY

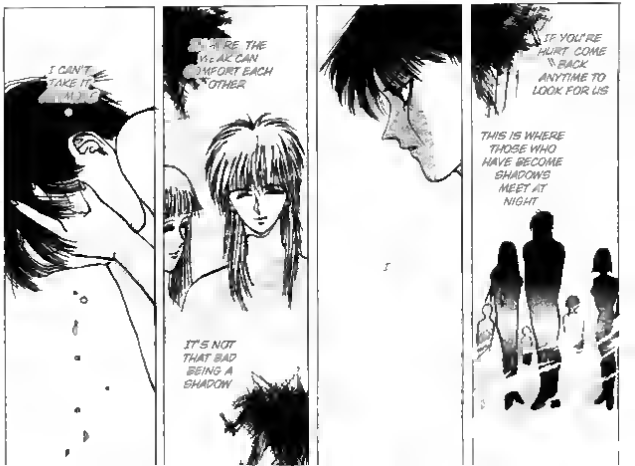

BECAUSE EVERYONE HERE IS LIKE YOU
YOU DON'T NEED TO BE AFRAID
WE'RE ALL PEOPLE WHO'VE LOST TO OUR OWN SHADOWS
THAT'S WHY, PEOPLE LIKE US
STRONG PEOPLE HAVE WEAK SHADOWS HAPPY ONES HAVE DEPRESSED SHADOWS
HUH?
A PERSON'S SHADOW IS HIS EXACT OPPOSITE IN CHARACTER
WE HAVE SHADOWS
WEAK AND KIND TO OTHERS

IT WILL THINK, "WHY DO I HAVE TO ACT IN FOLLOWING TO THIS USELESS PERSON!?"
"I WANT TO ACT UPON MY OWN WILL!"
THAT ARE TERRIFYINGLY STRONG
AND ONE DAY THESE SHADOWS WILL LOOK AT IT'S MASTER WITH EYES OF HATRED, ANGER, AND GREED
AND IN THE END, EVEN OUR PHYSICAL BODIES WILL BE POSSESSED BY THEM
PEOPLE LIKE US ARE WEAK, AND WILL LOSE TO THE STRONG WILL OF THE SHADOWS
AND WE WILL BECOME THEIR SHADOWS
THE SHADOWS WILL TAKE THE BODY,

IN FACT, MOST OF US HAVE SUCCUMBED TO OUR SHADOWS
ROBBING OTHERS, INJURING AND EVEN MURDERING THEM
THE SHADOW THAT HAS TAKEN OVER WILL BE AN ABOMINATION OF EVIL,
THE END
(ONCE IT REACHES THAT STAGE, THEN EVERYTHING'S FINISHED
#SHUFFLE#
THERE IS NOTHING ELSE THAT CAN BE DONE...
TO BECOME JUST A SHADOW
NO... I DON'T WANT...
I'LL LET YOU SEE WHAT OUR SHADOWS HAVE DONE IN THEIR NEW BODIES
AND TO CELEBRATE YOUR INAUGURATION,
IT'S TOO LATE
BECAUSE YOU'RE ALREADY ONE

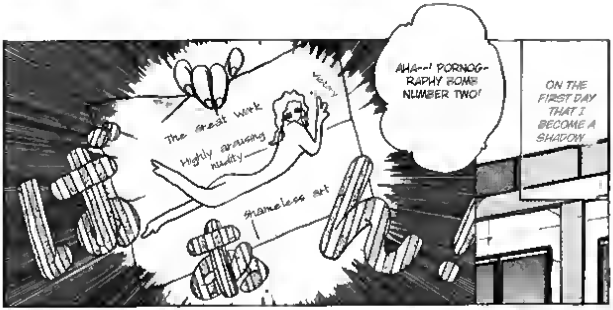
I BELIEVE YOUR PHYSICAL BODY ONE DAY, TOO...
WILL BECOME LIKE THIS.
AH

HE'LL GET USED TO IT SOON... BUT MAYBE THAT WAS A LITTLE TOO INTENSE
ARE WE JUST GOING TO LET HIM LEAVE LIKE THAT? I'M A LITTLE WORRIED...
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?
HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT THIS WAY


I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE
WE'RE THE WEAK CAN COMFORT EACH OTHER
IT'S NOT THAT BAD BEING A SHADOW
IF YOU'RE HURT, COME BACK ANYTIME TO LOOK FOR US
THIS IS WHERE THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME SHADOWS MEET AT NIGHT

SHADOW DISEASE

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO REPOSSESS YOUR BODY FROM YOUR SHADOW.
THAT IS TO BECOME EVEN STRONGER THAN YOUR SHADOW.
BECAUSE NOW THAT YOU'VE BECOME A SHADOW, YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE INFLUENCE OF YOUR BODY.
BUT THERE IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DO IT.
THE STRONG PHYSICAL SELF AND THE WEAK SHADOW HAS BECOME ONE.
WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SHADOWS!
WE WELCOME YOU ANYTIME

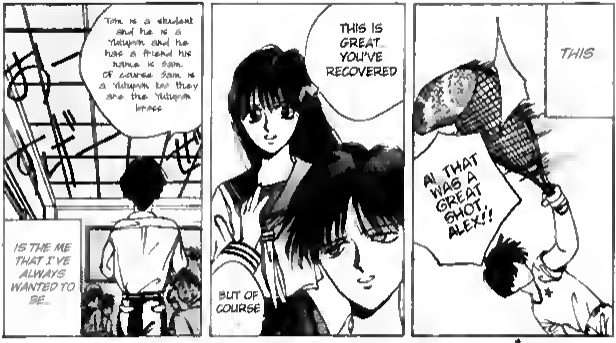

ON THE FIRST DAY THAT I BECOME A SHADOW...
AHA---! PORNOGRAPHY BOMB! NUMBER TWO!
The great work
Highly arousing nudity
Shameless art

HEY!
サラサラサラ
HUH??
SUCH A BAD DRAWING!

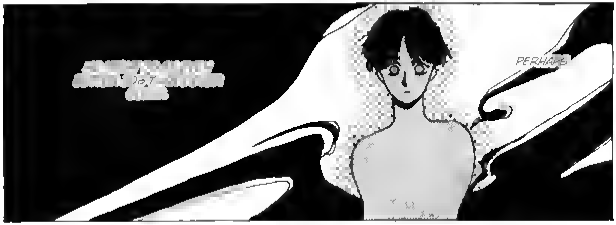
AH?!
THIS IS FOR YOU GUYS

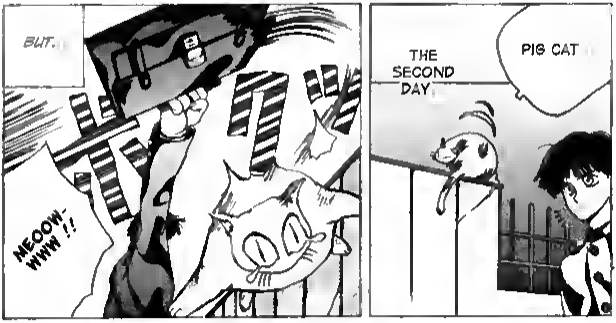
WAHHHH-HHH---?!
I DIDN'T KNOW ALEX WAS SO DESPICABLE <3
HUH?

--- WHAT'S UP WITH YOU, ALEX?


Tom is a student and he is a Yakuzen and he has a friend his name is Sam. Of course Sam is a Yakuzen too they are the Yakuzen brass
IS THE ME THAT I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE...
THIS IS GREAT YOU'VE RECOVERED
BUT OF COURSE
THIS
AI THAT WAS A GREAT SHOT ALEX!!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION





WHAT IS IT WITH YOU ALEX... IT'S LIKE YOU'VE BECOME A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSON...
THE SECOND DAY
COME ON, I NEED MORE POCKET MONEY THAN THIS!!
SHUT UP OLD HAG!!
NO!
AHHH!
THE PERSON I WANT TO BE...
THIS HAPPY?
GOOD MORNING!
ALEX!
ISN'T SOMEONE LIKE THIS!
AHHA - GOOD MORNING AS WELL

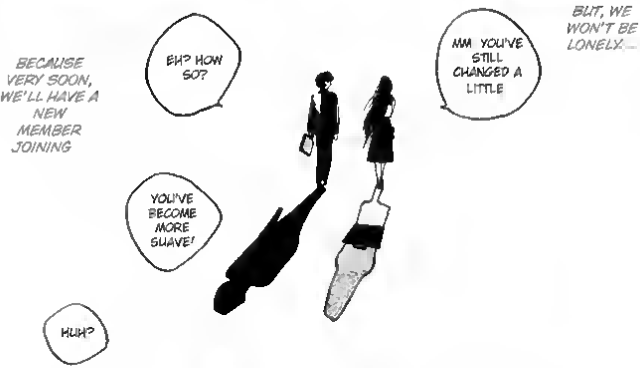
ALEX!
ST... STOP, ALEX
QUIET!
EVER SINCE YOU RECOVERED, YOU SEEMED TO HAVE CHANGED
MEI-CHAN
AND SO WHAT ABOUT THAT?
HUH?
DON'T SAY ANY MORE.
I JUST FEEL THAT YOU AREN'T THE SAME PERSON AS BEFORE.
BUT...
NO!!
IF YOU DARE HURT HER

I'LL KILL YOU!!

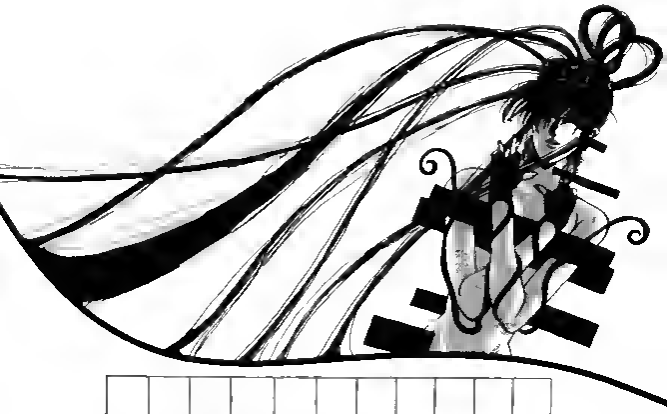
!
ALEX?
は。

I'M BACK!
WAHHH-HHH!! I'M I'M VERY SORRY, MEILING!
クスッ

BECAUSE YOUR WILLPOWER WAS STRONGER THAN THE SHADOW'S
BECAUSE YOU WERE STRONGER THAN THE SHADOW


BUT, WE WON'T BE LONELY...
MM YOU'VE STILL CHANGED A LITTLE
EH? HOW SO?
BECAUSE VERY SOON, WE'LL HAVE A NEW MEMBER JOINING
YOU'VE BECOME MORE SUAVE!
HUH?

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF SHADOWS !



THIS WORLD WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN SHADOW TEEN SEASON, AND IT WAS ORIGINALLY DRAWN FOR THE SEASONAL MAGAZINE.
HOWEVER, AND FOR REASONS I DON'T KNOW, IT WAS CHOSEN TO BE A STORY IN THIS COMPILATION. HOW COULD THIS BE... I'VE NOT PREPARED MYSELF FOR THIS... BUT, TIME STILL GOES ON REGARDLESS.

BECAUSE I HAD SUFFICIENT TIME, I SPENT ALOT OF EFFORT ON THE ART FOR THIS CHAPTER.

THIS BOOK IS A COLLECTION OF MY WORKS AS A STUDENT. THIS YEAR I'VE GRADUATED FROM SCHOOL, I'LL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD ON BEING AN ARTIST!!

Worlds chapter 4 - Shadow Disease

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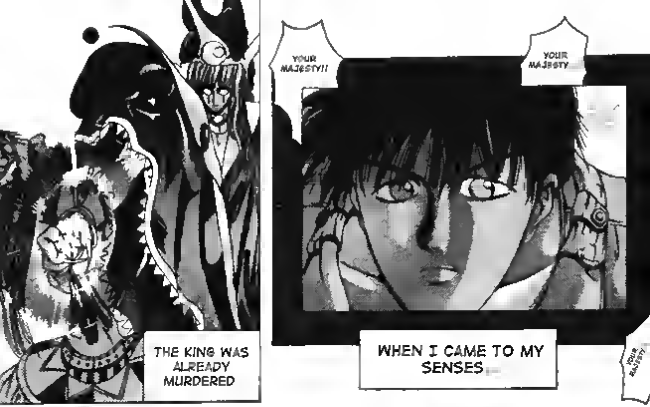
SOUL of KNIGHT


THE KING WAS ALREADY MURDERED
YOUR MAJESTY!!
YOUR MAJESTY...
WHEN I CAME TO MY SENSES...

— YOU'VE COME EARLIER THAN I EXPECTED HIGH KNIGHT FEYR.
WAS PLANNING TO DEAL WITH YOU WHILE YOU WERE ASLEEP.
BUT, LOOK,
THE KING YOU'VE SWORN TO PROTECT IS ALREADY DEAD.
IT WAS SOLELY MASTERMINDED BY THE IMPERIAL COURT MAGE ATTAWARUPA.
ATTAWA-RUPA!
YOU....
SIR FEYR!!
YOU TRAITOR!!

HOW DARE YOU ATTAWA-RUPA!!
IF YOU COME ANY CLOSER,
I'M AFRAID I CANNOT GUARANTEE THE PRINCESS' LIFE

AND
PRINCESS MIROKO IS IN MY HANDS AS WELL

PRINCESS MIROKO!

UGH!
DESPICABLE...
COULD A KNIGHT LIKE YOU STAND TO SEE THAT?

HEHEHE... TO HAVE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS BURNT ALIVE BY MY MAGIC...

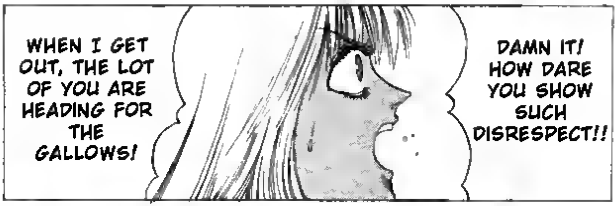
BUT, I CAN'T KILL YOU. AS LONG AS YOU HAVE THAT SWORD...
HEH... AS IT STANDS NOW, YOU ARE THE LONE ARMY RESISTING OUR FORCES. IT IS TOO LATE.
THE KINGDOM'S TREASURE, THE SOUL OF KNIGHT.
THAT SWORD CAN DISPEL MY PROJECTILE MAGIC ATTACKS..
ANY NOBLE OR ROYALE POSSESSING POWER HAVE BEEN DULY DISPOSED OF.
WHAT'S LEFT IS A HANDFUL OF KNIGHTS AND THE PRINCESS... AS WELL AS YOU, THE HIGH KNIGHT!
THE CIRCLE OF KNIGHTS HAVE BEEN DEFEATED BY MY MAGI...
BUT, YOU MUST RELEASE THE PRINCESS!
IF YOU WANT THE SOUL OF KNIGHT, YOU CAN HAVE IT.
THIS!
NO, YOU'RE MISTAKEN. I'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING..
MORE INTERESTING

PRINCESS ---!!
!!
YOUR WEAK NESS
IS YOUR LACK OF COOL WHEN YOUR MASTER IS IN DANGER
HEHE, YOU'RE FULL OF DEFEN-SIVE FLAWS
AT THIS POSITION, YOUR SWORD CANNOT TOUCH ME
WHAT?!

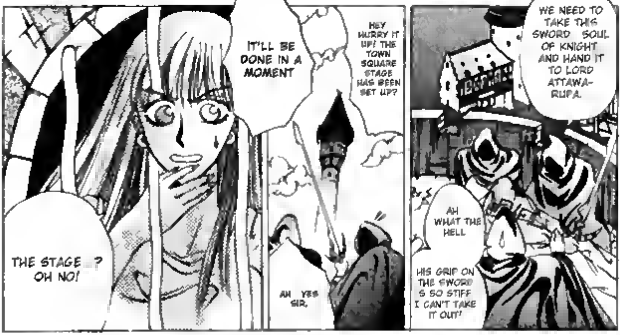
YOU REALLY THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO KILL THE PRINCESS?
SHE STILL HAS MUCH USE TO ME
AH
FOOL

AND NOW
IT IS TIME TO DISPOSE OF THESE LEFTOVER LOW-RANKING KNIGHTS
AH
ATHENA SELAISA SUMMER OF YEAR 252
THE DEPUTY RULER ATTAWA-RUPA LAUNCHED A COUP D TAT CLAIMING THE KING'S THRONE OF THE KINGDOM OF ATHENA SELAISA
FATHER ?
FEYR.
EE
UWAA AAAI!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR MY ORDERS?!
WILL NOT TAKE SUCH INSOLENCE!
OPEN THE DOOR!!
I'M THE PRINCESS OPEN IT!!!
CASTLE ATHENA SELAISA THE HIGHEST FLOOR
THE MOON CHAMBER


WHEN I GET OUT, THE LOT OF YOU ARE HEADING FOR THE GALLOWS!
DAMN IT! HOW DARE YOU SHOW SUCH DISRESPECT!!

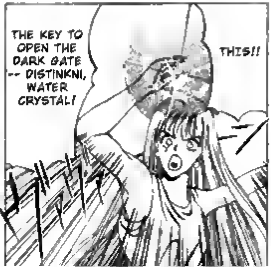
AND THERE IS "THAT THING" SEALED INSIDE THE TUNNEL
FATHER THIS IS THE TIME TO USE "THAT" RIGHT?
AH, YES THIS IS THE MOON CHAMBER ON THE TOP FLOOR
URGH
THERE'S A SECRET TUNNEL HERE
IT'S NO GY OUT THERE
WHAT'S THE MATTER ?

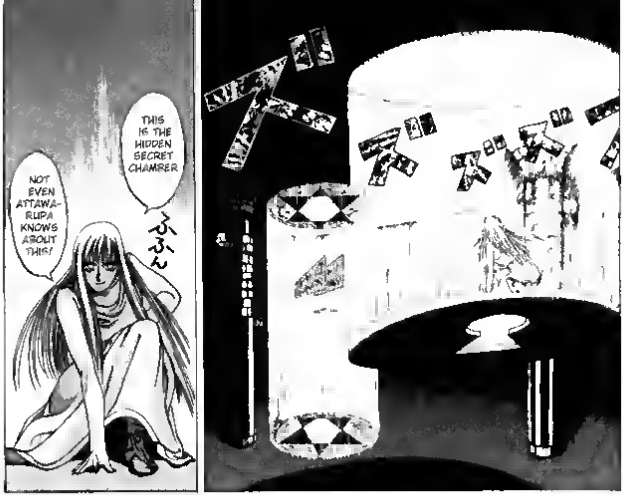

IT'LL BE DONE IN A MOMENT
HEY HURRY IT UP! THE TOWN SQUARE STAGE HAS BEEN SET UP?
AH... YES SIR.
THE STAGE...? OH NO!
WE NEED TO TAKE THIS SWORD SOUL OF KNIGHT AND HAND IT TO LORD ATTAWA-RUFA.
AH WHAT THE HELL
HIS GRIP ON THE SWORD IS SO STIFF I CAN'T TAKE IT OUT!

I MUST STOP THIS SACRILEGE OF HIS!!
PERVERT!
THAT CURSED ATTAWARUPA!! HE'S GOING TO PUT UP THE MURDERED BODIES OF FATHER AND FEYR TO THE PUBLIC AND CONDEMN THEM AS CRIMINALS!

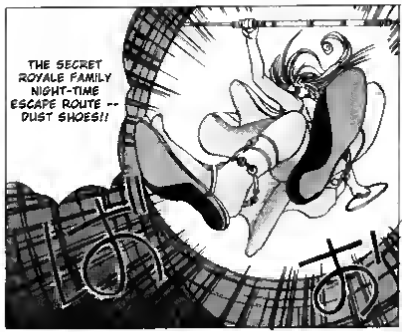
SO NOW I SHOULD PUT THIS HERE...
WAH!!

HIDDEN IN ONE OF MY WISDOM TOOTH IS...
GRAGGHH IT HURTS!


THE KEY TO OPEN THE DARK GATE -- DISTINKNI, WATER CRYSTAL!
THIS!!


THIS IS THE HIDDEN SECRET CHAMBER
NOT EVEN ATTAWA-RUPA KNOWS ABOUT THIS!
ふふん

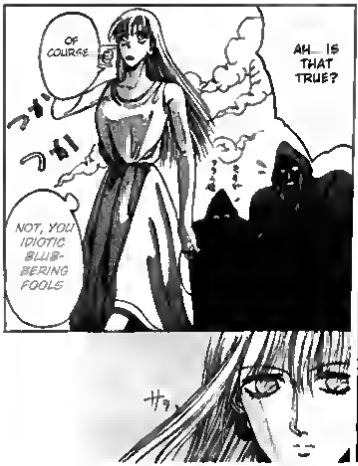
I HAVE TO HURRY!


THE SECRET ROYALE FAMILY NIGHT-TIME ESCAPE ROUTE -- DUST SHOES!!

I'M TAKING THIS COLLAR!

THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE!

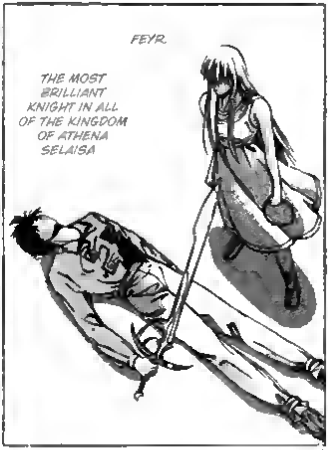
ATTAWA RUPA HAS REMOVED FATHER'S HEAD I CAN'T SAVE HIM
BUT FEYR
AHH! THE FRICTION IS BURNING ME!! AHHHH!
THERE S STILL HOPE!
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO PERFORM SUCH BARBARISM!
HOLD IT!
UGH!! I CAN'T TAKE IT OFF HIM!
DAMN IT!
THIS IS SO MUCH TROUBLE
HARGH
JUST CUT OFF HIS HAND!!


OF COURSE
AH... IS THAT TRUE?
NOT, YOU IDIOTIC BLUB-BERING FOOLS

PRIN-CESS MIROKO !!
WHY... WHY'RE YOU HERE?!

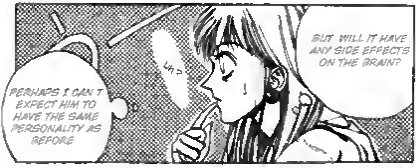
ATTAWARUPA SHOWED SOME COMPASSION AND ALLOWED ME TO BID FAREWELL TO SIR FEYR.
GET OUT OF THE WAY!

WHO EVEN IN DEATH DOESN'T LET GO OF HIS SWORD


FEYR.
THE MOST BRILLIANT KNIGHT IN ALL OF THE KINGDOM OF ATHENA SELAISA

REVIVE YOUR-SELF
RETURN TO AID ME!
KAGHA

!


BUT WILL IT HAVE ANY SIDE EFFECTS ON THE BRAIN?
UH-?
PERHAPS I CAN'T EXPECT HIM TO HAVE THE SAME PERSONALITY AS BEFORE

IS CALLED A HEAD-PIECE CREATED BY THE ANCIENT GODS AND IS SAID TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO BRING BACK THE FALLEN
BUT IT WILL NO WORK ON JUST ANYONE. THE PERSON HAS TO HAVE ENORMOUS MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH

AH
PRINCESS MIROKO HAS ESCAPED!!

THIS IS BAD!!
HUH? WHAT IS IT?

SHE'S RUNNING AWAY!!
AH!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! THE PRINCESS IS RIGHT HERE...
BUSH!!
GET HER!!
UGH!
HEY, THAT HURT!!
AH...

FEYR!!
IMPOS-
SIBLE

!?
THIS ISN'T A TIME TO BE HAPPY!!
AH.. HOLD ON, WHAT ABOUT THE SIDE EFFECT ?!
WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE DOING?
ヨロヨロ
YOU'RE REVIVED!
TAKE CARE OF THESE FOOLS!

WHAT'S GOING ON
WASN'T HE DEAD?
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING HE WAS SURELY DEAD

.....

UGH ---

RUN!!
I'M DEAD.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW FEYR UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE EVIL HEADCREST?
HIS EXPRESSION IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT

オロ
オロ

WAIT FOR ME ----
HEY, FEYR!!
A KNIGHT ESCAPING IN BATTLE!?
AH...
AHH..
WHO ARE YOU --!!
SHUT UP!!
I'M THE PRIN-CESS!
!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

NOTE THAT GREEN = AMATEUR/NOOB
THIS MORON !!
HE HE'S ONLY THINKING OF ESCAPING!!
REVIVING HIM WAS ENTIRELY POINTLESS !!
NAAAAH!
YOU'RE FAR TOO GREEN!
AH!
DAMN! HE GOT OUT FROM THE WEST GATE!!
HURRY. REPORT THIS TO LORD ATTAWARUFA IMMEDIATELY!
CHASE THEM! DON'T LET THEM OUT OF YOUR SIGHTS---!
CLOSE THE DOORS!!
バタム
HMPH
DON'T BLOCK MY WAY!!
WHAT?!

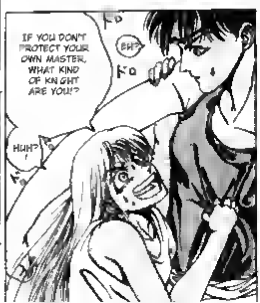
DID THE PRINCESS ESCAPE FROM HERE?
YES.
THEN THE ONES WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO BE KEEPING AN EYE ON HER PAY WITH THEIR LIVES!
AH-YES, MY LORD!
.....
ANCIENT WORLDS?
BUT EVEN IF HE IS BROUGHT BACK
I SEE THAT'S WHY FEYR
WOULD IT MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE? PRINCESS

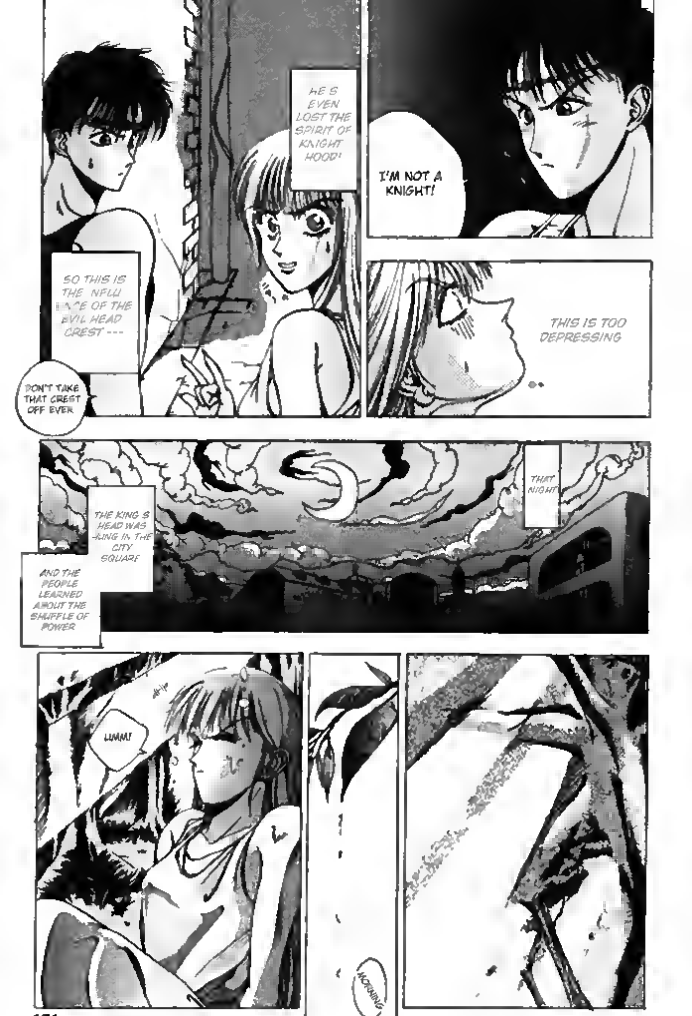
PHEW
HAH WHAT WAS GOING ON DOWN THERE
HAH-- HAH--
INNER C

WHO WHO ARE YOU? YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING ME SINCE THE CASTLE--!!
WH WHO AM I?!

FE FEYR! YOU
YOU ABANDONED ME AND RAN AWAY BY YOURSELF

DON'T TELL ME YOU
AMNESIA

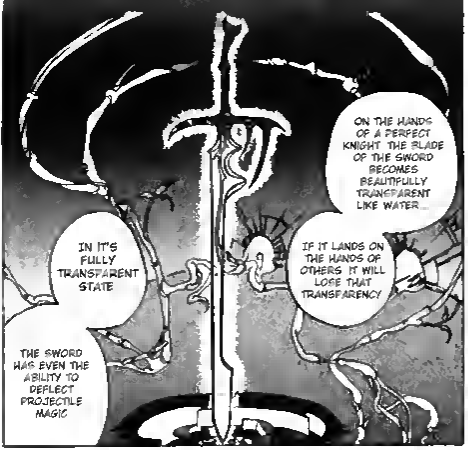

IF YOU DON'T PROTECT YOUR OWN MASTER, WHAT KIND OF KNIGHT ARE YOU!?
EH?
HUH?

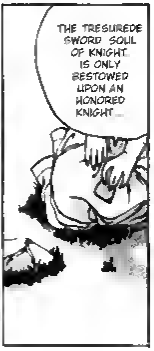

HE'S EVEN LOST THE SPIRIT OF KNIGHTHOOD!
I'M NOT A KNIGHT!
SO THIS IS THE INFLUENCE OF THE EVIL HEAD CREST ---
THIS IS TOO DEPRESSING
DON'T TAKE THAT CREST OFF EVER.
THAT NIGHT
THE KING'S HEAD WAS HUNG IN THE CITY SQUARE
AND THE PEOPLE LEARNED ABOUT THE SHUFFLE OF POWER
AH~
LUMA!
NOOOOO!

AH... EH? FEYR'S GONE!
HE SHOULD BE SLEEPING UNDER THAT TREE — WHICH... IS NOW A STUMP
AH AWAKENED BY THE MORNING DEW. THAT'S SO ROMANTIC...
BUT IT'S NOT TIME TO THINK ABOUT SUCH THINGS
HEY, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!
YOU LITTLE THIEF!
FOOL! YOU DARE TAKE BREAD THAT I PUT SO MUCH METICULOUS EFFORT INTO...
OH COME ON YOU HAVE SO MUCH BREAD, IT'S OKAY TO GIVE ME JUST THREE PIECES!!
HOW COULD I JUST LET YOU STEAL THEM AWAY LIKE THAT!!
GOTCHA!!
NAH
.....

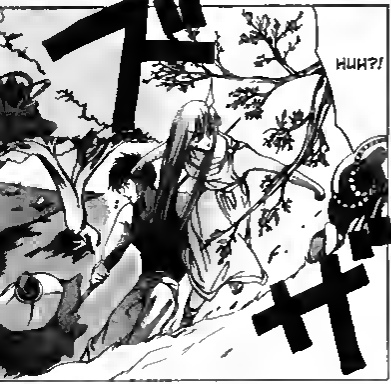
LET IT GO, FEYR!!
AH --- I APOLO-GISE!
YOU CAN HAVE THAT BREAD!!
?
YOU'RE GETTING TOO OUT OF HAND!
AH.. YOU ARE..
PRINCESS MIKOTO..?
WE'VE FOUND HER.

YOU!
EVEN IF YOU WERE TO CHANGE, WHY'D YOU HAVE TO CHANGE INTO SUCH A DESPICABLE PERSON!!
YOU... YOU'RE TALKING RUBBISH AGAIN...
I'M NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
AH...
SOUL OF KNIGHT'S BLADE HAS TURNED BLACK--!!
STOP BEING SO ANNOYING OR I'LL KILL YOU!
ゴゥッ
THIS SWORD SEEMS TO BE REALLY SHARP...
SOUL OF KNIGHT?
... THAT NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CHALLENGE ATTAWARUPA WITH THAT...
OH NO...


ON THE HANDS OF A PERFECT KNIGHT THE BLADE OF THE SWORD BECOMES BEAUTIFULLY TRANSPARENT LIKE WATER...
IN IT'S FULLY TRANSPARENT STATE
IF IT LANDS ON THE HANDS OF OTHERS IT WILL LOSE THAT TRANSPARENCY
THE SWORD HAS EVEN THE ABILITY TO DEFLECT PROJECTILE MAGIC


THE TRESURED SWORD SOUL OF KNIGHT IS ONLY BESTOWED UPON AN HONORED KNIGHT...

WHOAH ...SO THIS IS A TREASURED SWORD? LOOKS LIKE IT'LL FETCH A HIGH PRICE
BUT ... TO THINK THAT THE BLADE WOULD TURN ENTIRELY BLACK AND OPAQUE IN YOUR HANDS


HUH?!

NOW NOW

THAT'S GOOD NEWS

THE SOUL OF KNIGHT NOW HAS LOST ITS ABILITY TO DEFLECT MAGIC

THESE SCUM AGAIN
DON'T THEY EVER STOP COMING!!

IT'S ATTAWA-RUPA'S MEN!

FEYR!
WE'LL DISPOSE OF YOU USING A TRIPLE-TRIAD SPELL.
KNIGHT!!

IT'S USELESS. THE SWORD IS NOT REACTING TO THE MAGIC.

ゴゴゴ

HE EVADED THEM ALL!!
WHAT!!

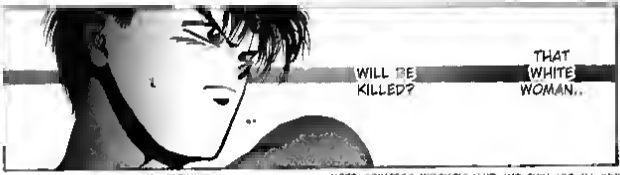
HAHA --
THAT'S SO YOU!

IS THAT SO?! THEN YOU WON'T CARE TO HEAR THAT THE PRINCESS WILL HAVE LESS THAN A DAY TO LIVE.

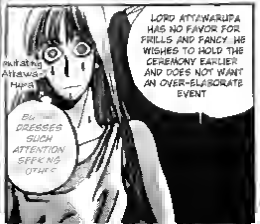
WE'VE FINALLY CAUGHT YOU!!
AH!? IT'S THE PRINCESS!
FOOLISH WOMAN
OH, OH NO! I FORGOT TO RUN IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT EXCITEMENT

I HAVE NO BUSINESS WITH THAT WOMAN!
WAIT A MINUTE, WHAT DOES THE PRINCESS GOT TO DO WITH ME!

IN TOMORROW'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY HE WANTS TO KILL YOU BEFORE THE PEOPLE
AND DECLARE THE END OF THE ROYAL FAMILY BLOODLINE



NOTE: PRINCESS MIROKO'S HAIR AND SKIN ARE ALL WHITE


LORD ATTAWARUFA HAS NO FAVOR FOR FRILLS AND FANCY. HE WISHES TO HOLD THE CEREMONY EARLIER AND DOES NOT WANT AN OVER-ELABORATE EVENT
Imitating Attawaru Hime
BY DRESSES SUCH ATTENTION SEEKING OTHE

UNSETTLED

HE'S DEAD! HMPH THIS FOOLISH MAN!
MERE FEW FEET AWAY FROM US AND STANDING THERE MOTIONLESSLY
MAGE

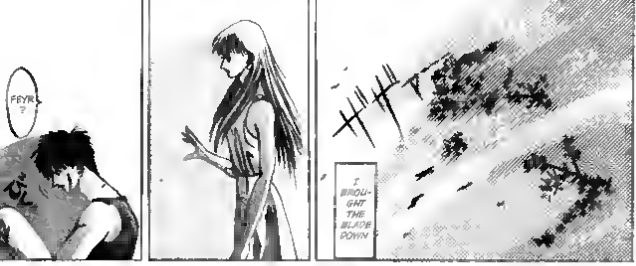
ジャキン
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THIS MAN IS THAT GREAT KNIGHT FEYR

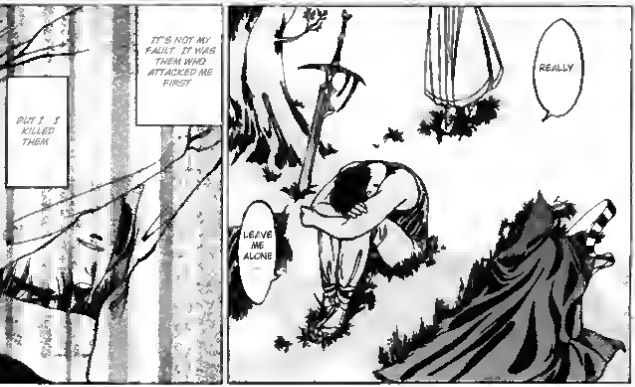
WHAT IS THIS.... WHO AM I? WHY ARE THINGS GOING LIKE THIS
コツ
コツ
コツ
THERE'S NO SENSE TO IT...

MY BODY

GASP
AH

!
IS MOVING BY ITSELF!
DID I GET THEM BOTH?
GET AWAY FROM ME!!
DAMN YOU!!
I. I.


FEYR...?
I BROUGHT THE BLADE DOWN


IT'S NOT MY FAULT. IT WAS THEM WHO ATTACKED ME FIRST
BUT I... I KILLED THEM
REALLY
LEAVE ME ALONE...

PRINCESS MIRUKO
OFFERING MY SWORD...
YES
REPRESENTS MY ETERNAL VOW TO PROTECT YOU TO THE DEATH

FEYR IS ACTUALLY TRAUMATISED FROM KILLING ENEMIES
HE IS NO LONGER THAT FEARLESS FEYR.

AH!
I CANNOT ALLOW THE KINGDOM TO BE HANDED OVER TO THAT MAN!
AS THE PRINCESS
THEY SAID THAT ATTAKARUPA'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY WILL BE HELD TOMORROW
I'LL FIGHT THAT BASTARD TO THE END, EVEN IF I HAVE TO DO IT ALONE!
I CAN NO LONGER DEPEND ON ANYONE ELSE.
LIKE AYST
WHITE HAIR
AH... ...

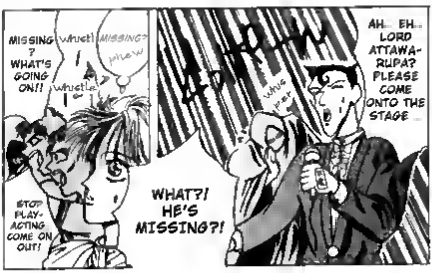
THE NEXT DAY, IN THE CASTLE OF ATHENA SELAISA ATTAWARUPA'S SEIZING OF THE POWER HAS LED TO THE HOLDING OF THE KING'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY TO DECLARE ATTAWARUPA KING
HEH...
HE ACTUALLY BROUGHT THE PLEBIANS INTO SUCH A LARGE GROUNDS
PRINCESS MIROKO DISGUISED AS A MAN
I DIDN'T THINK EVEN THE COMMON CITIZEN WOULD SUPPORT HIM
THAT SLY ATTAWARUPA! HE KNOWS HOW TO HANDLE SUCH AFFAIRS!
BUT THERE ARE SO MANY GUARDS HERE
I ENDED UP FOLLOWING HER ANYWAYS
stare
UGH
WAH

COME ON OUT, ATTAWA-RUPA!
BUT I JUST CAN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT HER
WHAT AM I DOING WHY SHOULD I TAIL THAT WHITE WOMAN?

BUT YOU ARE MORE SO A PERVERTED MAN BETRAYING FATHER AND SEIZING THIS KINGDOM BY FORCE!
I WILL SERVE JUSTICE FOR THE HEAVENS!!
YOU WERE ONCE THE COURT MAGE OF THE KINGDOM OF ATHENA SELAISA AND A MAN OF ADMINISTRATIVE POWER.

ATTAWA RUPA ...!
PLEASE WELCOME THE LORD ATTAWARUPA ON STAGE!

ATHENA SELAISA'S NEW KING
KING ATTAWA-RUPA'S INAU-GURATION CEREMONY WILL NOW BEGIN!!


MISSING? WHAT'S GOING ON!!
whistle
MISSING?
whew
STOP PLAY-ACTING COME ON OUT!
AH... EH... LORD ATTAWA-RUPA? PLEASE COME ONTO THE STAGE...
WHAT?! HE'S MISSING?!

わあああ
PLEASE WELCOME THE LORD ATTAWA-RUPA ON STAGE!

I'M RIGHT HERE.
WHAT, IT'S THAT GUY?
He's Kazaki Hata ...
BEFORE HOLDING THE CEREMONY, I'D LIKE EVERYONE TO SEE EVIDENCE OF THE END OF THE ROYAL BLOOD LINE
AH
I'VE INVITED THE PLEBIANS HERE JUST FOR THIS REASON
I ... I FEEL THAT EVIL AURA ... IT'S FRIGHTENING
OH GOD, NO! I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY
could I be his mage !?
I EXPECTED YOUR PRESENCE PRINCESS...
THAT THAT WAS TOO EASY hah

IT HURTS--!!! OUCH OUCH OUCH!!
pain
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN FOOL ME JUST BY DRESSING AS A MAN?
UWAAH !
PUT ME DOWN --!!
BUT, WHAT'S MORE SURPRISING IS...
FEYR?
IS HE TALKING ABOUT ME...?
IS HE
HERE ?
THAT SIR FEYR WOULD BE HERE AS WELL

DIE!
YOU'RE ALL BLOCKING MY WAY YOU DAMN PLEBIANS. I CAN'T SEE HIM.
UH.. UWAHH, RUN!!
GYA..
AH---!! IF YOU DARE HURT THE PEOPLE OF THIS KINGDOM, I SHAN'T FORGIVE YOU!
I MERELY RAISED A LITTLE WIND
DOES HE WANT TO RULE BY FEAR?
BREEDING FEAR IN THE PEOPLE'S HEARTS?
BUT THROUGH THIS EVENT I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY BRED FEAR IN THE COMMON MAN'S HEART
LOOK! THERE IS NO ONE LEFT BUT MY MEN

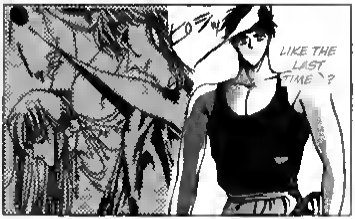
LOOKS LIKE IT WAS WRONG OF ME TO SAY THERE'S NO ONE LEFT
... MY MISTAKE
AH... YOU YOU YOU YOU THAT WHITE WOMAN
WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO WITH HER...
THERE'S ONE MORE
AH!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE... THAT COWARD ACTUALLY CAME...
DID... ANYTHING CHANGE IN HIM?
WHAT'S LEFT HERE IS A MERE STUTTERING FOOL HEH
I'M ACTUALLY TRYING TO SAVE THAT WHITE WOMAN FROM THESE SCARY MEN
kacha kacha
MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME
THERE,
THIS MAN HAS LOST ALL HIS PAST MEMORY... HIS WHOLE BODY TREMBLING BEFORE ME

WHO IS SHE TO YOU? NO ONE RIGHT?!
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HER

WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS WOMAN IS REALLY NONEOF YOUR BUSINESS RIGHT?
HEY

HEHEHE... TO HAVE SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS BURNT ALIVE BY MY MAGIC
COULD A KNIGHT LIKE YOU
STAND TO SEE THAT?
SHUT SHUT UP

PERVERT!
FOOL!
YOU MORON. ARE YOU TRYING YET AGAIN TO WAVE A SWORD LIKE A MADMAN AGAIN?
It took so much time to heal my injuries


LIKE THE LAST TIME?

HE.. FEYR ONCE PROMISED ME..
FEYR AND I AREN'T UNRELATED!!

HE WOULD BE WILLING GIVE UP HIS LIFE!
THAT FOR THE KINGDOM, AND FOR MYSELF,

HAS BECOME TRANSPARENT CLEAR AS WATER.

.....
UGH...

tak

FEYR...? THE SWORD...

MAN HAS NO SUCH POWER!!
NO MAN CAN DEFY THE POWER OF GODS...
THE EVIL HEADCREST WAS AN ARTIFACT CREATED BY THE ANCIENT GODS.
HOW COULD THIS BE!!
ATTAWARUPA?!
WHAT AM I DOING!!
FEYR --!!

THE SPELL IS DEFLECTED!!
AH!
UWAHH!
ATTAWARUPA!!

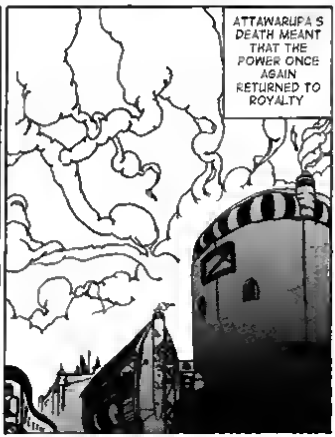
ARGHHHHHHHHHH-
HHHHHHHHHHH-
HHHHHHHHHH
---- OH NO!!
へたれ…
THE KNIGHT SIR FEYR...
THAT'S HIM!!

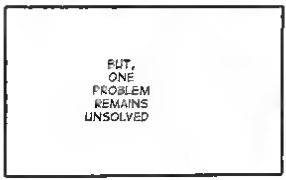
YOU'RE OKAY, THAT'S GREAT
MY MASTER.

THAT TO SAY THE LOWER OF THE EVIL HEAD-CREST

HAS BEEN OVERCOME BY HIS CHILVARY?

THAT ATTAWARUPA KILLED ALL THE IMPORTANT AND EFFICIENT MINISTERS, THERE'S NO ONE TO HELP ME
PRINCESS MIROKO BECAME QUEEN, AND IS BUSY WITH WORK EVERY DAY


ATTAWARUPA'S DEATH MEANT THAT THE POWER ONCE AGAIN RETURNED TO ROYALTY


BUT, ONE PROBLEM REMAINS UNSOLVED

ALTHOUGH I LOST MY MEMORY AT THAT TIME I WAS TOO DISCOURTEOUS TO YOU MY LORD
I AM UNWORTHY OF WIELDING THIS SOUL OF KNIGHT

YOU WANT TO RETURN THE SOUL OF KNIGHT TO THE KINGDOM?
WHY?!

B-BUT!?
THE QUEEN IS RESTING NOW! PLEASE TREAT THE PERSON BEFORE YOU LIKE A NORMAL GIRL!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT PETTY MATTERS LIKE THAT
GEEZ. IT'S MY BREAK NOW.

AH—!
Yes, your highness
HEY! A KNIGHT WHO FOLLOWS THE BOOK TOO MUCH WITHOUT BEING FLEXIBLE, CAN GET REALLY ANNOYING!

Soul of KNIGHT

IN SOUL OF KNIGHT, WHAT'S LEFT IS UNBEARABLE MEMORIES. THIS IS BECAUSE 4 DAYS BEFORE I HANDED IN THE DRAFT, I HADN'T BEEN SLEEPING AT ALL. UNTIL THE 4TH DAY, I HAD VIRTUALLY LOST ALL CONSCIOUSNESS, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT I WAS DOING AT ALL. THAT WAS DANGEROUS. I PERSONALLY THINK THAT THE ONLY DRAFT THAT WAS COMPLETED SO BEAUTIFULLY WAS THIS "SOUL OF KNIGHT", I'M SO USELESS THAT WAY. I THOUGHT OF IT AS A VOLUME OF MANGA WHEN I DREW IT. IF PEOPLE COULD FEEL THAT AS WELL, WHILE READING IT, THEN IT WOULD BE GREAT

MANGA AFTERWORD

THE LAST 3 PAGES WILL IT EVER END

What is this?

---- MM. I'M STILL THINKING

HAS GROWN THINNER AGAIN

RYU FUJISAKI 21 YEARS OLD

THE CONTENT OF THE LAST 3 PAGES ARE TOTALLY UP TO ME SO LET ME THINK WHAT I SHOULD WRITE HERE

THINK INSTANT COFFEE TASTES GREAT

ピコ ピコ

IT HAS A GREAT AROMA I STRAY IT FREQUENTLY ON MY FINAL PAPER FOR MANGA

① WRITE AN EXTREMELY SHORT STORY (I'M GOOD AT THIS)
② DRAW SOME ILLUSTRATIONS (BEING AN ILLUSTRATOR IS MY DREAM)
③ JUST CHAT AND HANG OUT
▶ ④ SECRET

THIS IS THE SECRET

THIS MAY BE THE WORLD'S FIRST!! PREDICTIONS OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN MANGA AFTER THEY END I WANNA DO THIS

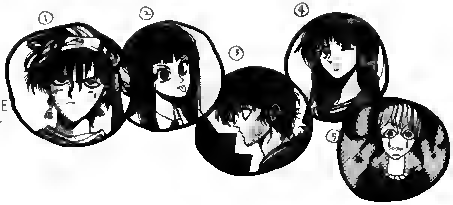
AND FINALLY I CHOSE OPTION 4

something filled out of paper

FILLER

THIS "FUTURE PREDICTION" OF SORTS, IS AN ORIGINAL IDEA OF MINE, AND I MEANT TO INTRODUCE EVERYONE TO THE SEQUELS OF SEVERAL MANGA SHORT STORIES ALL OF THEM ARE HORROR STORIES

No.1 THE SOUND OF HAMELIN'S FLUTE
No.2 WORLDS
No.3 THGHT ROPE
No.4 SHADOW DISEASE
No.5 SOUL OF KNIGHT



← NEXT

BAKA!!
WE'VE SAVED 2/5.
AHH -- HE'S CUTTING CORNERS --!!
AHH -- I SPOILED NICK'S MARKER PEN --!!
VERY GOOD AT SPOILING MARKER PENS
AH, THAT'S RIGHT
FIRST CD THE SOUND OF HAMELIN'S FLUTE AND CD WORLDS DO NOT HAVE SEQUELS. THESE TWO DON'T PASS
BECAUSE THESE TWO STORIES HAVE COMPLETELY ENDED
HOW COULD HE -- WITHOUT A SEQUEL I HAVE NO FUTURE!

「TIGHT ROPE2」

AND SO, THE NEXT SETTING FOR "TIGHT ROPE 2" WILL BE THE GUARDIAN CITY "MILK" THAT FLOATS ON THE SEA.

IN THERE, THE PROTAGONIST'S MEET ADIE "LA" AND ONE OF THE SEVEN WISE MEN, "BELTHASAR" (BECAUSE "LA" HAS A MEMORY CAPACITY THAT FAR SURPASSES THE LIMITS OF THE HUMAN BRAIN, IT IS DIAGNOSED AS "FAULTY".

WHY DOES HE HAVE SUCH AN EXTRAORDINARY MEMORY? AND, WHO ARE THE CREATORS OF SVEN? AND WHAT IS?

THE SEVEN WISE MEN HAVE IN MIND? HEHEHEHE. THIS STORY SEEMS TO HAVE SOMETHING GOING FOR IT. SO I THINK.

I'LL DO THIS AS A SELF-PUBLISHED DOUJIN. THE CONTENTS ARE SECRET.

SHADOW DISEASE2

SHADOW DISEASE 2 S TAGLINE WILL BE "THE ALL CONSUMING S D " ALRIGHT! AFTER I DECIDED TO WRITE THE SDW IT TO THE SEQUEL. I DIDN'T IMAGINE THAT THE DRAFT (EVEN THE DRAFT OF A MANGA HAS A DRAFT) WOULD END UP AS A 61 PAGE MONSTER. THEY SAY IT COULDN'T WORK BECAUSE IT WAS TOO LONG. SO IT WAS DUMPED

THE STORY DESCRIBES HOW THE WORLD HAS ITSELF BECOME A SHADOW AND THE CONTENT IS FAIRLY SHOCKING TH S

WILL FEATURE ALEX WHEN HE S 17 YEARS OLD. NOW A HANDSOME YOUNG MAN, AS WELL AS INTRODUCING NEW CHARACTERS

LIKE LANCE NANCY. IT IS A STORY OF THE DESTRUCTION OF MANKIND. ALEX NANCY, LANCE AND ALSO THE MISLING THAT EVERYONE CARES FOR, THEIR FATES WILL BE REVEALED ONLY TO YOU

AH! TOO MANY BOXES IT'S TOO MESSY!

LANCE --!!
NANCY!!
THE WORLD HAS BEEN CONSUMED BY THE SHADOW D SEASE
EVEN THE SHAPE OF THE EARTH WILL CHANGE THAT IS AN UNBELIEVABLE HUGE HAPPENING
THE ALL CONSUMING S D
GOODBYE, FOREVER, MY DEAREST ALEX...

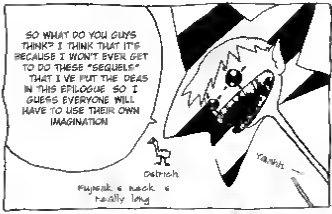
SOUL of KNIGHT 2

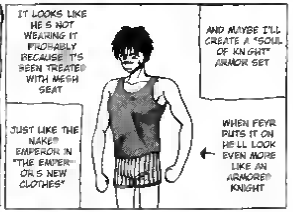
IN THE NORTH OF THE KINGDOM OF ATHENA SELAGA A TIME DRAGON HAS BEEN SIGHTED AT THE CITY "METAPOLIS" (A TIME DRAGON IS A DRAGON THAT CONTROLS TIME) AND IT HAS DESTROYED VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE CITY

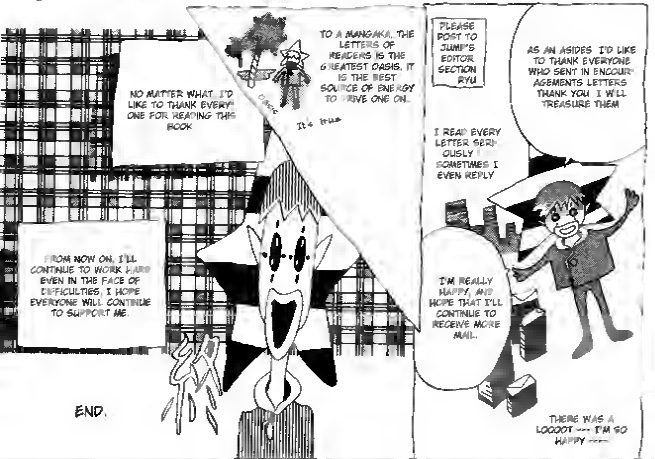
QUEEN MIROKO DISPATCHES FEYR TO CONFRONT THE DRAGON

FEYR AND THE BROTHER OF THE LATE ATTAWARUPA (ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR CHARACTERS IN FUJISAKI'S MANGA) NAPOYOLASARU JOURNEY TOGETHER TO DEFEAT THE TIME DRAGON. IN THE COURSE OF THEIR QUEST THEY LOSE THEMSELVES IN THE "WHITE FOREST" AND EVEN ENCOUNTER A STRANGE OLD BRUTE. AND THERE IS A FEELING FULL OF MYSTIC FANTASY

SPEAKING OF ATTAWARUPA, IS HE TRULY DEAD?? AND WHAT ABOUT FEYR? AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO NAPOPO? AND AND AND... !!!


SO WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK? I THINK THAT IT'S BECAUSE I WON'T EVER GET TO DO THESE "SEQUELS" THAT I'VE PUT THE IDEAS IN THIS EPILOGUE SO I GUESS EVERYONE WILL HAVE TO USE THEIR OWN IMAGINATION
Ostrich
Yaaah
Fujisaki's neck is really long


IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S NOT WEARING IT PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'S BEEN TREATED WITH MESH SEAT
JUST LIKE THE NAKED EMPEROR IN "THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES"
AND MAYBE I'LL CREATE A "SOUL OF KNIGHT" ARMOR SET
WHEN FEYR PUTS IT ON HE'LL LOOK EVEN MORE LIKE AN ARMORED KNIGHT


NO MATTER WHAT I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERY ONE FOR READING THIS BOOK
FROM NOW ON, I'LL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD EVEN IN THE FACE OF DIFFICULTIES. I HOPE EVERYONE WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ME.
END.
Cluck
It's true
TO A MANGAKA, THE LETTERS OF READERS IS THE GREATEST OASIS. IT IS THE BEST SOURCE OF ENERGY TO DRIVE ONE ON.
PLEASE POST TO JUMP'S EDITOR SECTION RYU
AS AN ASIDES I'D LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO SENT IN ENCOURAGEMENTS LETTERS THANK YOU I WILL TREASURE THEM
I READ EVERY LETTER SERIOUSLY SOMETIMES I EVEN REPLY
I'M REALLY HAPPY, AND HOPE THAT I'LL CONTINUE TO RECEIVE MORE MAIL.
THERE WAS A LOOOOT --- I'M SO HAPPY ----

Worlds chapter 5 - Soul Of Knight

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